TARA REID'S PIECE OF THE PIE

ACTRESS PUTS HER PARTY PAST BEHIND HER TO STAR IN THE UPCOMING AMERICAN PIE REUNION PAGE 23

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Turn out the lights, Vancouver!

In the dark. Lights go out for Earth Hour Saturday from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.

KATE WEBB
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The World Wildlife Federation's (WWF) annual Earth Hour presents a challenge to save energy that more and more British Columbians are finding fun and creative ways to take on.

BC Hydro's numbers show participation is increasing each year, with the megawatt hours conserved during last year's one-hour event nearly doubling, from 64 in 2010 to 117. That's equivalent to 7.8 million 15-watt compact fluorescent bulbs all going dark at once.

Although that's only a small fraction of the province's typical hourly electricity use (1.04 per cent in 2010 versus 1.8 per cent in 2011), it's significant enough that more communities than ever are getting in the game.

"The event really is taking off on its own so that communities are embracing it with innovative ideas to promote Earth Hour, and really doing the promotion themselves," said BC Hydro spokeswoman Jennifer Young, adding this is the fourth year the corporation has supported the event.

"We're one organization that helps promote Earth Hour. WWF, of course, does a lot of promotion of the event, but it really is starting to be a very organic event, where communities are starting to come up with their own interesting and innovative ways to celebrate and mark Earth Hour."

Kamloops is hosting a "dim swim" at its Canada Games Pool this Saturday, while Pitt Meadows, which led the province with a six per cent drop in energy consumption during last year's event, is hosting a parade of lights featuring an Earth Hour song written by two local artists.

In Vancouver many office towers will go dark, along with the string of lights on the Lions Gate Bridge.

"This year we've got 87 municipalities on board. Last year we had 80," said Young. "People are really being creative in participating in Earth Hour. It's a lot of fun, it's super easy to participate and it's one hour a day that can teach you good conservation behaviour."

A couple eats dinner while taking in the view of downtown from southeast False Creek during Earth Hour 2011 in Vancouver. More coverage, pages 4, 16. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Environmental standards a little more lax

Federal budget, delivered Thursday by Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, eases the environmental-approval process for B.C.'s big oil projects like the Northern Gateway pipeline

PAGES 3, 8

Good as gold

Canada's sweethearts Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir reclaim world ice-dancing title

PAGE 33

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Feds streamline environmental approval for big oil interests

Federal budget. NDP believes Conservatives are putting concerns of business ahead of environment

DANIEL PALMER
vancouver@metronews.ca

Massive resource-development programs in B.C. — including the Northern Gateway pipeline — will soon be subject to a simplified environmental-approval process that could see the projects breaking ground within two years.

The controversial announcement was part of Thursday's federal budget release in Ottawa.

"We are in no way undermining the integrity of the regulatory process. The key here is to make the process more efficient," said Ed Fast, Abbotsford MP and minister of international trade.

The new standards will require environmental regulators to complete a single approval process over a maximum period of 24 months. Currently, companies have to wait up to six years before breaking ground on new projects.

"We've been looking for one process for one project for many years," said Iain Black, Vancouver Board of Trade chief executive. "This has been one of the greatest inhibitors to investment in our province."

But some environmentalists believe the streamlined process is designed to benefit oil-export projects such as the Enbridge Northern Gateway and Kinder Morgan TransMountain pipeline projects.

"If I was a lobbyist for big oil, and I had a laundry list for helping to get my project approved, I would be walking away from this budget with a big smile on my face," said Ben West, spokesman for the Wilderness Committee.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty delivers the budget on Thursday in the House of Commons in Ottawa. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Libby Davies, NDP deputy leader and Vancouver East MP, said the new process will hinder community consultation for development projects.

"This is a government that is driven to basically give a green light to the huge organizations that want to go ahead with developments," she said.

"You have to have a properly grounded environmental assessment where people can be heard. If you limit people's ability to be heard, that's a fundamental problem, especially in a province like B.C."

Extend Pickton inquiry: Victims' families

Lorelei Williams, left, whose cousin Tanya Holyk was murdered by serial killer Robert Pickton, is comforted by B.C. NDP MLA Jenny Kwan as NDP Leader Adrian Dix looks on after a news conference in Vancouver on Thursday. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The families of missing and murdered women have renewed a plea to extend the Pickton inquiry, a day after Attorney General Shirley Bond rejected the notion.

Opposition NDP Leader Adrian Dix said his party supports the request, saying the inquiry has been hamstrung by unwise decisions and insufficient support from the government.

"We're dealing with issues of poverty and racism and inequality," Dix said on Thursday. "At every stage, things that could have allowed the inquiry to succeed have been denied by the government."

When asked about Bond's promise to end the inquiry by June, Dix said Premier Christy Clark has disagreed with the attorney general before, and this is the perfect time to do so again.

"I understand that (the government is) stuck on their position, but they need to change that position, because it's not the right position."

Bond says an extension to the inquiry, which already has been given a year and a half, would just delay implementation of the changes its findings recommend.

NDP MLA Jenny Kwan noted that the inquiry into the Tasering death of Robert Dziekanski was given two years to complete its investigations, despite being of much smaller scope and involving just a single police jurisdiction.

Family member Lori-Ann Ellis pleaded for more time, saying that an extension would show "that society has changed — that our daughters, sisters and mothers did not die in vain, and that the women who work the streets today deserve to be treated with dignity and respect."

Bond says she is "confident" that inquiry commissioner Wally Oppal will be able to properly complete the inquiry by the scheduled end time in June.

GRAHAM TEMPLETON/FOR METRO

1 NEWS

On the web

'Any way the wind blows' in a police car

What happens in the back of a cruiser stays in the back of a cruiser — unless, of course, it's a slurry rendition of Bohemian Rhapsody sung by a recently arrested rugged Prairie man. Watch at metronews.ca

Mobile news

As the United States moves to paperless medicine, doctors are grappling with an awkward challenge: How do they tap the promise of computers, smartphones and iPads in the exam room without losing the human connection with their patients? Scan for the story

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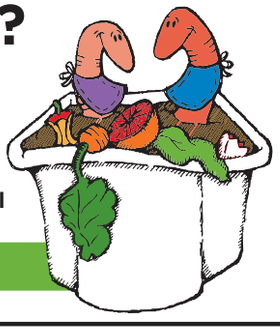

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: 311

Sex charges dropped.
Child denied justice by court delays: Watchdog

A young girl who was allegedly sexually assaulted by her father will never see justice, says a B.C. children's representative Thursday.

Crown originally approved 13 charges against the father, including one count of incest, one count of sexual assault, five counts of assault and three counts of uttering threats, but the case was effectively dropped because of court delays.

"She will never be able to confront the alleged offender in a public court with the type of safety and protection from the state that's needed to do that," said Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, B.C. representative for children and youth.

Turpel-Lafond found in her report, released Thursday, that charges were stayed in 2010 because translating services stalled due to financial pressures.

"There was a need to translate some statements, it was clear that it was required. It went to court several times pending the translation, but it never happened."

Once a charge is stayed in B.C. because of delays, it's rarely reactivated.

The independent watchdog waited a year in hopes of an internal review, but nothing moved forward, so she launched her own investigation.

"It means a lot to victims to know that this case is important enough that we examine it carefully and accept responsibility as a province that we failed this family."

The Ministry of Justice announced Thursday that all of Turpel-Lafond's recommendations will be immediately implemented, including proper funding to translation services and prioritizing cases involving the welfare of children.

KYLA JONAS/FOR METRO

University scolded.
Personal information of employees stolen

The University of Victoria has broken the law by failing to protect employees' personal information, according to B.C.'s privacy commissioner.

"I think this was extremely unfortunate because this privacy breach was completely foreseeable and preventable," said commissioner Elizabeth Denham.

The USB flash drive containing the names, social insurance numbers and banking information of nearly 12,000 current and former employees of UVic was stolen in January and has not been recovered.

"The significant problem with using the USB flash drive was that the university failed to encrypt the data. Because of that, the data was easily accessible to individuals who had stolen the drive."

Quoted

"The incident really resulted in huge costs to the university and stress to the individuals who were affected."

Privacy commissioner Elizabeth Denham

UVic has taken full responsibility for the theft and has adopted all recommendations by the commissioner to meet legal privacy obligations.

KYLA JONAS/FOR METRO

Gunshots rile region.
Three shootings keep police scrambling

Police across the Lower Mainland were busy late Wednesday and early Thursday responding to three separate shootings, including a brazen drive-by attack in the heart of Commercial Drive.

At 2:45 a.m. Thursday, Vancouver police responded to shots fired in the 1600 block of Commercial Drive and found a 20-year-old man who had been shot in the back.

Const. Lindsey Houghton said the shooting appears to be targeted and the victim, expected to recover, is known to police.

In Surrey, a 27-year-old man was shot in the Safeway parking lot at 103 Avenue and King George Boulevard on Wednesday around 9:30 p.m.

An apparent murder-suicide also occurred in Mission that evening. DANIEL PALMER/FOR METRO

Sutton Place Hotel executive chef Michael Deutsch serves up albacore tuna tataki with a cold mango, celeriac and cinnamon basil salad — an appetizer prepared without electricity in honour of Earth Day. KATE WEBB/METRO

Earth Hour the recipe for success

Green living. Eating by candlelight is more than just romantic

KATE WEBB
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Dozens of popular Vancouver eateries are planning to dim the lights and break out the candles for Earth Hour this Saturday from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Sutton Place Hotel executive chef Michael Deutsch has drawn up a special Earth-friendly dinner menu and Earth Day cocktails for both the upscale Fleuri Restaurant and more casual Gerard Lounge.

"It's not all raw, but we have components to it that use less energy," Deutsch explained. "For the (albacore tuna tataki) appetizer we don't require any electricity.... We do it with a blowtorch, so it just sort of scorches the skin, meaning the middle of it is still sashimi."

The tataki is served with a cold mango, celeriac and cinnamon basil salad and whipped crème fraiche sabayon.

For the second course, Deutsch plans to serve mushroom consommé, kept warm in a gas-powered portable stove. It comes with Dungeness-crab salad with hearts of palm and tarragon froth.

Next comes chicken "sous vide," which means cooked in bag, served with potato gratin, creamed blue cheese, mushroom tapenade and striped beets. He admitted that dish will require use of the oven, but said the effort is what counts.

"It's hard to do an Earth Hour menu where everything's cold, because a lot of people don't like three courses of cold," he said. "I know I don't like that, but we try to do as much as we can."

The prix-fixe menu is $45 per head, and includes the hotel's renowned chocolate buffet for dessert — a perfect excuse to linger late into the night in the candlelight.

Turning off

Drops in electricity consumption during Earth Hour:

- 2009: Vancouver — 1.1%; B.C. — 1.1%
- 2010: Vancouver — 1.4%; B.C. — 1.04%
- 2011: Vancouver — 1.5%; B.C. — 1.8%

Participating restaurants

Restaurants that plan to turn off or dim lights:

- Bitter, Black + Blue, C Restaurant, Cardero's, Chambar, Ciao Bella, Coast, Coza Tuscan Grill, Dunn's Famous, Fishworks, Fleuri, Gerard Lounge, Joe's Apartment Bar, Judas Goat Taberna, La Terrazza, Provence Mediterranean Grill, Raincity Grill, Rocky Mountain Flatbread Co., Salmon ' 'n' Bannock, Salt Tasting Room, Sandbar, Seasons in the Park, Spencer's Resto Lounge, Teahouse in Stanley Park, Terracotta Modern Chinese, The Italian Kitchen, The Reef, The Refinery, Trattoria Italian Kitchen.

Cherry blossom trees, seen here lining Vancouver's sea wall during last year's festival. CONTRIBUTED

Festival blooms again

In Japan, cherry blossoms are a symbol of the beauty and the transience of life. In Vancouver, they mean it's time to celebrate.

The cherry blossoms are predicted to be out in all their glory next week, as the sixth annual Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival (VCBF) ushers in springtime.

The month-long celebration — a favourite among local and international shutterbugs alike — begins Thursday at 11 a.m. inside the Burrard SkyTrain station, known for its beautiful but short-lived canopy of the colourful Japanese flowers.

The festival opening will feature the first public performance of renowned Indian choreographer Shiamak Davar's Umbrella Dance, put on by the Vancouver Performance Team.

Other draws include a $20 lunch special prepared by some of Japan's most famous chefs, a display of taiko drumming and, of course, the cherry blossoms themselves.

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INCLUDES central accom near major attractions. Price per person based on family of 4. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $5 per night.

Las Vegas Air + 3 Nights — from $207 + taxes & fees $135
INCLUDES accom on the Strip. **ADD** Champagne Rock Star tour from $48.

Phoenix Air + 3 Nights 4-Star — from $455 + taxes & fees $106
INCLUDES all-suite accom in Phoenix. **ADD** 3-day car rental with unlimited mileage from $21 per day.

Orlando Family Special Air + 7 Nights — from $518◊ + taxes & fees $132
INCLUDES central accom with free transportation to major attractions. Price per person based on family of 4. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $7 per night. **BOOK** this package based on double occupancy from $639.

Maui Family Special Air + 7 Nights — from $519◊ + taxes & fees $143
INCLUDES 1-bedroom condo style Kihei accom. Price per person based on family of 4.

New York City Air + 3 Nights 4-Star — from $859 + taxes & fees $128
INCLUDES Manhattan accom. **ADD** 3-hour island cruise from $35.

Canada

Harrison Hot Springs
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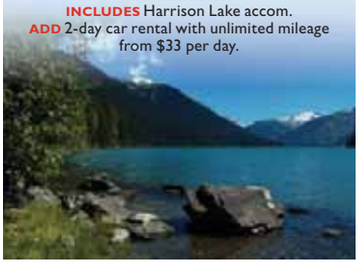

Victoria 2 Nights 4-Star — from $145 taxes & fees included
INCLUDES Inner Harbour accom. **ADD** whale watching from $104.

Whistler 3 Nights 4-Star — from $188 taxes & fees included
INCLUDES Village accom. **UPGRADE** to 5-star accom from $62 per night. **ADD** tree trek canopy walk from $50.

Montreal Air + 3 Nights — from $545 + taxes & fees $153
INCLUDES accom near Old Montreal. **BONUS** daily breakfast included. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $24 per night. **ADD** city tour from $56.

Toronto Air + 3 Nights — from $559 + taxes & fees $160
INCLUDES downtown accom. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $14 per night. **ADD** CN Tower from $32.

Europe

Paris Air + First 2 Nights
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+ taxes & fees $514
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Frankfurt Air + 7 Nights — from $499 + taxes & fees $553
INCLUDES central accom, near shopping and major attactions.

Amsterdam Air + First 2 Nights — from $583 + taxes & fees $486
INCLUDES city centre accom near Central Station. **ADD** Windmills and Edam Tour from $46.

Long Stays

Orlando Air + 21 Nights — from $888 + taxes & fees $132
INCLUDES Kissimmee accom near attractions, championship golf and shopping. **ADD** 22-day economy car rental for $15 per day.

New Zealand Air + 21 Days — from $998 + taxes & fees $740
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Air + 3 Nights + 3-Night Cruise — from $499 + taxes & fees $95
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When Langley Baseball made it into the Little League World Series last year but heard their Ugandan competitors couldn't go, the team rallied to raise over $155,000 to visit them — and lend a hand — in Africa.

KATE WEBB/METRO
Photos: Hubert Kang/Contributed

1 **Play ball!** Team Canada plays Team Uganda in January.

2 **Hitting home.** Langley players got a chance to walk through the slums.

Local little league opens big hearts

3 **Game of destiny.** Both teams together at last in Uganda after their meeting at the Little League World Series fell apart.

4 **Score!** Team Uganda celebrates on the field.

When Langley Baseball made it into the Little League Baseball World Series last August the local boys were overjoyed.

But when a team they were supposed to play from Uganda couldn't make it to the U.S. tournament because of paperwork issues, the Canadians turned pensive.

Five months later, they were on a plane to keep their date with the Ugandan team, having raised more than $155,000 to cover the costs of travelling to Uganda and starting some humanitarian projects in the impoverished African nation.

"When we won the nationals to go to the World Series, it was a huge accomplishment, but just to have someone take that away from us, we kind of put ourselves in their shoes and thought, 'You know what? We've got to make this right,'" said team manager Dean Cantelon.

A 30-minute documentary about the team's once-in-a-lifetime trip airs this Sunday on Sportsnet Pacific.

Cantelon explained some of the Ugandan boys don't have birth certificates or even know when they were born, which is what made it impossible for the team to gain entry to the U.S. for the tournament.

"Some of the players on the Ugandan team live in the slum areas. One player named Ivan actually lives by a community field in a tool shed with his grandma," he said.

"For these boys to actually see the conditions that some of these kids were living in, but yet their spirit was so upbeat and you just wouldn't know it when you saw them on the ball field or outside where they reside, but when they take you to their place ... it was a huge eye-opener."

He said his 13-year-old son Cole, who is on the Langley team, now has about 20 new Facebook friends living half a world away.

The documentary film that captured the team's experience, Fair Ball: From Langley to Uganda, airs Sunday at both 2 and 9 p.m. on Sportsnet Pacific and will also be shown again throughout the month of April.

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In their early 50s, they both have government jobs with a combined annual household income of $150,000. While they are still supporting their son who is in his last year of university in London, Ont., that's the only large expense they have. Their retirement savings are on track, their house in midtown Toronto is paid for and so are both of their cars.

The financial freedom means they're travelling much more than before. "And, we especially love our weekends away," says Sally.

The couple just booked another special getaway that will include an event in the Visa Infinite Dining Series. Their *Scotia Momentum*® VISA Infinite* card provides exclusive access to a range of cultural activities and wine and dine events.

"This time we're going to the Langdon Hall Country House Hotel and Spa in Cambridge, Ont., for a country culinary escape! It's really a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," says Sally. The couple will join other cardholders and award-winning Chef Jonathan Gushue for an extraordinary sit-down meal.

The *Scotia Momentum* VISA Infinite card is the only reward card the couple uses these days. "We like getting cash back on the cash we spend," says Caleb. The couple use the card to pay for about $36,000 worth of purchases a year.

The *Scotia Momentum* VISA Infinite card provides 4 per cent cash back on gas and groceries, 2 per cent cash back on drugstore items and recurring bill payments, and 1 per cent cash back on all other eligible purchases. While there is an annual fee of $99, the payback is more than worth it, says Caleb.

Last year they got back $744. "And we had so many special occasions away," says Sally.

Scotia Momentum® Cash Back Calculator

Sally and Caleb's profile:

Sally and Caleb use their *Scotia Momentum*® VISA Infinite* card to pay for about $3000 worth of purchases a month. Remember that some fixed costs are not payable by credit card and therefore not included in these calculations.

	$0 — 1,000 — 2,000	
Grocery Store		$ 400
Gas Station		$ 500
Drug Store		$ 300
Recurring Bills		$ 200
Other		$ 1,600
	Total Monthly	**$ 3,000**

Sally and Caleb's Estimated Annual *Scotia Momentum*® Cash Back

Sally and Caleb have a *Scotia Momentum*® VISA Infinite* card. Here's a look at the cash back their purchases add up to.

Scotia Momentum® VISA Infinite*

4%	$ 432	
2%	$ 120	
1%	$ 192	

Total Cash Back $744

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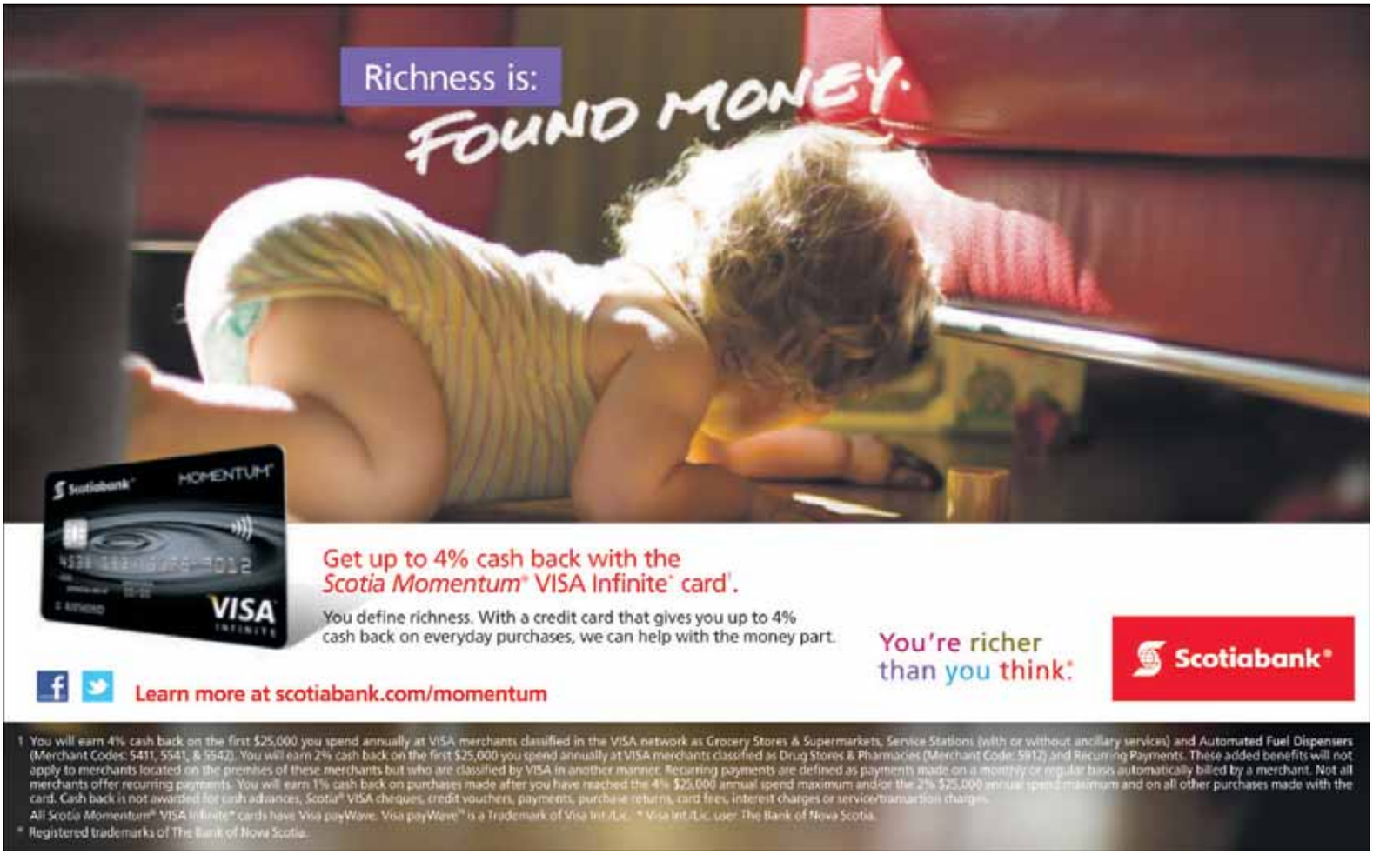
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Federal budget puts economic growth in hands of private sector

Budget. Government appears intent on making it easier for businesses to get the green light on major resource projects

Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty delivers the federal budget in the House of Commons on Parliament Hill in Ottawa, Thursday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty is giving Canada's corporate titans the means to drive the economy — while signalling government is moving to the back seat.

Thursday's massive budget — at nearly 500 pages it is one-third bigger than last year's — is chock-a-block full of direct spending and incentives to help firms expand, invest and export, as well as measures designed to shed some of the shackles on their growth.

"They are trying to create a favourable environment in which businesses can grow. The government is telling business, 'We carried the ball during the recession, now it's your turn,' " said TD Bank chief economist Craig Alexander.

That budget suggests government is getting out of the business of stimulating the economy. In fact, Ottawa is creating a slight fiscal drag with average spending growth of 2.1 per cent over the next five years that is a shade under inflation.

The message of the budget is that future growth will have to come from exporting to other countries and business investments in plants, machinery and equipment.

"Speedier regulatory approvals, limits on employment insurance rates, improvements on the foreign worker program, venture capital, what they are doing to support small business innovation, that's all important stuff," Jayson Myers of the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters said.

Myers withdraws praise in changes to the Scientific Research and Experimental Development program to reduce the tax credit rate and withdraw capital from eligible expenditures. He said that will hit Canada's research and development heavyweights, who might export R&D elsewhere. But there's some modest new money, he said Half-a-billion dollars of venture financing for start-ups and $1.1 billion over five years for direct research and development to help both big and small businesses become more competitive.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Reactions

"What the budget is doing is handing off the baton from government to the private sector to carry economic growth."
Craig Alexander, chief economist at TD Bank.

"We've been led to believe that this government is capable of providing leadership and making tough decisions but, if it is, there's no proof of that in this budget at all."
Gregory Thomas, federal director of the Canadian Taxpayers' Federation

"We will stay on course, to keep creating high-quality jobs and long-term economic growth for Canadians."
Jim Flaherty, Finance Minister

Future effects of the budget

A penny saved is now nothing but

The humble one-cent piece is set to disappear from Canadian pockets, a victim of inflation.

Thursday's federal budget said the Royal Canadian Mint will strike the last of the little coins this fall. The budget says the cost of minting a penny has risen to 1.6 cents or $11 million a year. Its purchasing power has fallen to a 20th of its original value.

"Some Canadians consider the penny more of a nuisance than a useful coin," the budget documents said.

Pennies will still be legal tender, but as they slowly vanish from circulation, prices will have to be rounded up or down. If the customer has the pennies, they can use them.

Payments with debit or credit cards, or cheques, can also be to the penny. But if the customer is paying cash and doesn't have the pennies, the total will go up or down to the nearest nickel. For example, $1.02 will become $1 and $1.03 will be $1.05.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

2

So much for sharing the pain

Retirement just got harder for ordinary Canadians and for public servants but the gold-plated pension plan enjoyed by members of Parliament has emerged virtually unscathed — at least for now.

The budget promises only to begin moving "over time" toward making parliamentarians pay 50 per cent of their pension contributions and vaguely refers to further "adjustments" which won't take effect until after the next election in 2015.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Reforming immigration?

Almost 300,000 people who applied before 2008 to come to Canada are having their applications returned.

The move will cost the federal government up to $130 million in refunded fees but will also eliminate the backlog of skilled worker applications.

Eliminating the backlog is only one of the major changes the government expects to make to the immigration system this year as it seeks to better align immigrant levels to economic needs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

4

Old age security eligibility raised

The federal government has raised the eligible age for old age security to 67, postponing existing benefits for two years.

It will affect the guaranteed income supplement, veterans' benefits, aboriginal benefits, survivors' allowances and especially the way many companies have set up their employees' pension plans. Ottawa will start making the adjustments in 2023, meaning anyone over 54 won't be affected. People in their early 50s will see moderate changes. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cross-border shoppers stock up

As of June 1, travellers coming back after 24 hours away will be able to bring in $200 worth of goods free of duty or taxes, an increase from just $50.

People gone more than 48 hours will be allowed $800 in duty-free goods, double the present $400 allowance. There is no longer any specified seven-day limit on duty-free purchases. The changes are designed to harmonize levels with those of the United States, and will streamline the border-crossing process.

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SiriusXM

Ottawa

Win A Baby winners conceive

Natasha and Ryan Derouchie of Ottawa never thought a radio contest would have helped them make their dream of having a child come true, but it did, and they couldn't be happier.

The Hot 89.9 radio station announced on the air Thursday morning that the finalist couple in the controversial Win A Baby contest is expecting a child.

The Derouchie's and four other couples won up to three fertility treatments valued at $35,000 in October.

JOE LOFARO/FOR METRO

Tuition hike

Students stage mock hanging of premier

One day after student demonstrators marched on Jean Charest's family property, they staged a mock hanging and burned down an effigy of the Quebec premier during street protests Thursday.

That fiery stunt was among the multiple signs in downtown Montreal of the bitter feud over tuition hikes that has gripped the province.

Student protesters also blocked access to Montreal's main courthouse, clogged several city boulevards, and vandalized police cars Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Halifax

Door-to-door drug sale a bust

Police say a 43-year-old Dartmouth man tried his luck at selling drugs door-to-door and it didn't turn out very well.

Halifax Regional Police say they responded to a report of a suspicious male who had been going door-to-door on Albro Lake Road in Dartmouth on Wednesday night.

Police say when they located the male he had a variety of prescription drugs and a brass knuckle switchblade combo in his possession. He will appear in court on charges including possession of a prohibited weapon and illegal possession of a controlled substance. METRO

Jury finds Stobbe not guilty in wife's hatchet killing

Winnipeg. Former political advisor says he will focus on raising sons after being exonerated in wife's murder

Mark Stobbe talks to media outside the Law Courts in Winnipeg on Thursday after a jury found him not guilty in the second-degree murder of his wife.

TREVOR HAGAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Minutes after being found not guilty in the brutal killing of his wife, former political adviser Mark Stobbe told reporters he would like to know who the killer was, but it's not his task to find out.

"I've heard the judge say on many occasions that that isn't my job. It's not something I can speculate on," Stobbe, 53, said outside court. "Of course, I want to know."

Stobbe added he now wants to focus on raising his two teenaged sons.

"I'm very proud of my sons. I know their mother would be too."

After two days of deliberations, a 12-member jury found Stobbe not guilty of second-degree murder Thursday in the death of his wife, Beverly Rowbotham. Her bludgeoned body was found in her car 15 kilometres away from the couple's home in St. Andrew's, Man., in the early hours of Oct. 25, 2000.

When the verdict was read in a Winnipeg courtroom, Stobbe let out what sounded like a sigh, leaned forward and put his head down on one arm that was resting on the edge of the prisoner's box.

When he looked up again, his face was flush with emotion.

Court of Queen's Bench Justice Chris Martin told Stobbe he could now focus on raising his children as a tribute to his late wife.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Polar bear surprise visit

Louis Reardon, 55, got the shock of his life early Thursday when he leapt out of bed to his son's cries of "Polar bear!" as a large male bear broke into their home in northern Newfoundland.

"He had the door busted open to the dining room with his two front paws and his head in through the door," Reardon said from tiny Goose Cove, just south of St. Anthony, N.L.

"I mean, it frightened the wits right clean out of me, to be that close to a polar bear."

Reardon's son Damien, 29, had heard a ruckus and flicked on the light to discover the animal. Polar bears are notoriously aggressive when cornered, and Damien slammed on a table trying to frighten the intruder as his father raced for a shotgun.

"A polar bear doesn't usually back down," Reardon said. "If he came in the house, God knows what he would have done before he went out."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Political unrest. African presidents forced to divert plane by rebels

Five African presidents seeking to restore Mali's elected government were forced to make a mid-air U-turn and head to Ivory Coast to hold their meeting, after demonstrators supporting the military junta took over the tarmac to stop the jets from landing, officials said.

The presidents of Ivory Coast, Benin, Liberia, Niger and Burkina Faso were due to arrive in Mali on Thursday to press for the departure of the junior officers that grabbed power in a coup last week, reversing over two decades of democratic rule in this landlocked nation south of the Sahara.

The planes carrying the presidents landed in the capital of Ivory Coast, where they went ahead with their meeting, officials said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

What happened?

Last week's coup happened in one of the few established democracies in the troubled western half of the African continent.

- **New leader.** Sanogo, who is in his 30s, seized power from President Amadou Toumani Toure, who is considered one of Africa's senior statesman, and was just months from stepping down

Poland

Official dismisses assassination claims

Poland's top prosecutor says there is no evidence to support theories that a 2010 plane crash that killed President Lech Kaczynski was an assassination.

Prosecutor General Andrzej Seremet was reacting Thursday to comments made by Jaroslaw Kaczynski, a conservative party leader, who suggested the plane crash was intentional. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Security video adds to debate over teen's death

Florida. Footage of George Zimmerman in handcuffs has Trayvon Martin supporters questioning official story again

In this image taken from video at the Sanford, Fla., police department, George Zimmerman, in red jacket, is escorted into the Sanford police station in handcuffs on Feb. 26, 2012, the night he fatally shot Trayvon Martin.

MARTIN FAMILY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A security video that shows neighbourhood watch captain George Zimmerman being led in handcuffs from a police car after he fatally shot Trayvon Martin is adding to the debate over whether the shooting was a case of self-defence.

An attorney for the teen's family said it looks to him that Zimmerman doesn't have injuries to his face and head in the video as Zimmerman's supporters have said.

Zimmerman told police he fired in self-defence and he was not arrested, touching off widespread public outrage and protests across the country. Zimmerman's attorney, Craig Sonner, has said in more than one interview that his client's nose was broken during the fight with Martin.

Sanford police Sgt. David Morgenstern on Wednesday confirmed that the video being shown by ABC News is of Zimmerman. The 28-year-old's head and face are visible throughout and he is dressed in a red and black fleece jacket. Police are shown frisking Zimmerman, whose hands were handcuffed behind his back. They then lead him into a police station.

"This certainly doesn't look like a man who police said had his nose broken and his head repeatedly smashed into the sidewalk," Ben Crump, an attorney for Martin's family, said in a statement. "George Zimmerman has no apparent injuries in this video, which dramatically contradicts his version of the events of February 26."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Supporters

Martin's supporters, including a host of outspoken celebrities and civil rights leaders who have appeared on television for the past two weeks, don't believe Zimmerman's story. They want him arrested and prosecuted.

- **Forced into hiding.** Since the shooting, Zimmerman's supporters say he's gone into hiding and that he and his family have gotten death threats.

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Waiting on the Burmese Spring

Winds of change. On April 1, Burma holds elections that Nobel Prize-winning dissident Aung San Suu Kyi's party is expected to win

ELISABETH BRAW
Metro World News

Win Tin thought he'd never see this day. For 19 years he was imprisoned and tortured for his pro-democracy activism. But now Tin, a leader of Aung San Suu Kyi's NLD party, lives in freedom. And NLD is expected to win parliamentary seats in an election on April 1.

"This election is very important to us," Tin tells Metro. "If you look at the figures, a byelection that only includes seven per cent of the parliamentary seats isn't very important. But we'll finally be in parliament, and we can do a lot by co-operating with other parliamentarians, if they're not too afraid."

NLD won Myanmar's 1990 election, but the country's repressive military rulers cancelled it and jailed Suu Kyi. International observers called the 2010 election a sham, and opposition leader Suu Kyi boycotted it.

In the past year, the generals have introduced extraordinary reforms. They've freed 200 political prisoners, introduced labour laws that allow for unions and strikes, and relaxed censorship. This winter Myanmar's minister of industry, Soe Thane, even attended the World Economic Forum in Davos.

"Those who have held the power over the past decade still hold it," explains Jan Zalewski, a Myanmar analyst at IHS Global Insight. "But the reforms do one important thing for the government: They provide it with legitimacy."

Suu Kyi will almost certainly be elected to one of the 48 seats to be filled in the byelection. "The significant thing is she's running," says Aye Chan Naing, executive director of Democratic Voice of Burma, an exile organization. "She's still an icon. Wherever she goes, she attracts hundreds of thousands of people."

And this time the junta isn't preventing Suu Kyi from campaigning. It has even broadcast one of her speeches on TV. That's because the regime wants her to win.

"And even if Suu Kyi's NLD party wins all 48 seats, this would not change the balance of power in parliament," notes Zalewski. "The legitimacy the regime has gained from its reforms would be increased indefinitely if Suu Kyi and other NLD members were elected to parliament." The big question now is whether Suu Kyi will recover after taking ill, apparently from exhaustion, several days ago.

Paradoxically, a free and fair election could put Suu Kyi in a bind: Her participation is seen as approval for the regime. "But we have clear goals of what we want to accomplish in parliament," says Win Tin. "Establish the rule of law, end armed conflicts and change the constitution. We know it's not easy, and it will take time. But our main worry is that the military will undo the reforms."

Co-operation urged

"We'll finally be in parliament, and we can do a lot by co-operating with other parliamentarians, if they're not too afraid."
Win Tin, a leader of NLD party

Hear democracy roar: Opposition activists in Rangoon. GETTY

Q&A: Junta seeking allies, end to sanctions

Prof. Sean Turnell

Prof. Sean Turnell, Macquarie University, Australia, author of Fiery Dragons: Banks, Moneylenders and Microfinance in Burma

What's behind the generals' reforms?
Some of them realize that their country has fallen behind. Right after World War II, Thailand was poorer than Burma. Now it's five times richer. And the junta worries about being dominated by China, so it's seeking new allies.

In addition, the junta hopes the reforms will convince the international community (to) end the sanctions.

How much are ordinary citizens seeing of the reforms?
What they're noticing is newspapers actually reporting news, not government propaganda. And, of course, what they've noticed is a host of international businessmen suddenly descending on Rangoon.

But the economic reforms are lagging behind the political ones. And the reforms are taking place in cities rather than the countryside, where most Burmese live.

ELIZABETH BRAW/MWN

Country lagging

"Right after World War II, Thailand was poorer than Burma. Now it's five times richer."
Prof. Sean Turnell

Basic concerns

Everyday life in Myanmar is a struggle for many

"It used to be that I was always shadowed in Burma," says Aye Chan Naing. "Now all of that is gone. And journalists are able to write about many more topics, though sometimes they tell me that the authorities have ordered a story to be cancelled or cut."

But Myanmar's citizens have more basic concerns as well: They're desperately poor. With a GDP per capita of $1,300, Myanmar ranks 205th in the world, below countries like Burkina Faso.

The plight of the impoverished majority stands in stark contrast to the opulence of the ruling military, which exploits the country's natural resources and is accused of using a privatization scheme to further enrich itself.

MWN

Voices of dissent

Protesting monks oppose junta

Along with Aung San Suu Kyi, Burma's monks have been the junta's most formidable opponent. In 2007, the junta brutally crushed the monks' Saffron Revolution. But earlier this year, 31-year-old monk leader Shin Gambira, who was sentenced to 68 years in prison after the uprising, was released. The junta has told Burma's approximately 400,000 monks and 50,000 nuns not to get involved in the election campaign. MWN

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For more than 40 years, we've been one of Canada's leading career training institutions, helping thousands of students achieve their career goals and aspirations. Our 25 campuses across Canada offer hands-on training from industry-experienced instructors in business, technology, healthcare, early childhood education, legal, and art and design programs. Graduate and career placement services are available to help match every student with the right job.

CDI COLLEGE BY THE NUMBERS:

Year first campus opened: 1969

Current number of CDI College students in BC: close to 1,000

Since 2007, almost 10,000 students have studied and trained at CDI College in Canada

EMPLOYMENT SUCCESS

National grad employment rate in education related jobs: 82%

Percentage that acquire real work experience as part of their program: 100%

Number of instructors and support staff CDI College employs in BC: more than 100

MARKET-SUPPORTED TRAINING

Number of programs offered in BC: more than 40

Percentage designed in conjunction with key industry partners: 100%

EDUCATION LEADERS

Year we launched North America's largest iPad implementation in an educational environment: 2011

Teamed with Optimal Resume to allow students to create and share stylish interactive resumés: 2012

Led the way in preparing tomorrow's skilled work force: always!

INDUSTRY LEADERS

Percentage of CDI College Dental Assisting grads who pass their national certification exam on the first try: more than 97%

On the loose. No injuries after rebellious elephant flees bath in Irish circus

Zoo keepers try to guide an elephant away from a coffee shop and stop it from rampaging through the streets of Dublin Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An elephant called Baby did not want a bath.

Instead, the 40-year-old elephant bolted from a circus in southern Ireland on Tuesday, causing some alarm to customers in a coffee shop where keepers caught up with the runaway.

No one was injured, but a video shot from a nearby office showed that the keepers had trouble keeping up with Baby as he headed away from the coffee shop in Blackpool.

Egle Vilmaite, manager of the Costa Coffee shop, told Ireland's RTE News: "He was running around on his own and then you could see the guys from the circus running around, and the elephant wasn't happy."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Exhibit features replica of world's largest 'monster' snake

A prehistoric monster snake the length of a school bus that likely fed on supersize turtles and crocodiles has made its way to the Smithsonian Institution for an exhibit opening Friday. The National Museum of Natural History is featuring a life-size replica of Titanoboa along with a cast of its large vertebrae through January 2013. When it was alive, the snake averaged 48 feet in length. Scientists figure the snake weighed about 2,500 pounds.

BEBETO MATTHEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Labour action

Italy faces 'Viagra strike' over reform

Hospital pharmacists are threatening to cut Italians off from their Viagra unless the government amends its plans to reform professions that have high-entry barriers.

Pharmacists will stage a series of labour actions during April, culminating with the so-called "Viagra strike" if their complaints are not redressed. Hospital pharmacists say Premier Mario Monti's economic liberalization plan is unfair because it gives private pharmacists preference for new licences.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Never too late

Once-illiterate man publishes book

The Portuguese-born James Arruda Henry had plenty to be proud of as a U.S. lobster boat captain who managed to build his own house and raise a family. But he kept a secret into his '90s, one that forced him to bluff his way through life: Henry was illiterate.

Now he's 98, and his self-published collection of autobiographical essays is being read in elementary schools. In A Fisherman's Language details his barefoot beginnings in Portugal and his adventures at sea.

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ACTION PLAN

Canada

Light a candle for the Earth

Earth hour. People in 135 countries will take an hour on Saturday to support the planet

This year marks the fifth anniversary of Earth Hour in Canada — it takes place this Saturday from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Earth Hour is one hour where the world unites and turns off their lights at 8:30 p.m. local time, to send a powerful message in support of action on climate change.

Participants see it as an opportunity to hunker down inside and play board games, or go out to one of many restaurants that serve dinner by candlelight.

More than 130 countries and more than 5,200 cities participated in Earth Hour in 2011.

Last year, 43 per cent of Canadians turned off their lights in support of Earth Hour — almost 15 million people — across 427 cities.

For more details about Earth Hour in Canada, visit wwf.ca/earthhour.

To find out more about Earth Hour around the globe, visit earthhour.org.

METRO

Canadians will find lots of ways to rediscover the dark for Earth Hour on Saturday.
KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO FILE

Many famous buildings, like the Peace Tower in Ottawa, the Eiffel Tower in Paris and the Great Wall of China, will go dark on Saturday for Earth Hour. FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Hour power

- **World's largest.** Within four years, Earth Hour has reached more than 1.8 billion people in 135 countries across every continent, making it 'the world's largest campaign for the planet.'
- **Lights out in space.** In 2012, for the first time, Earth Hour will reach the International Space Station.
- **Watch Earth go dark.** Astronaut and WWF Earth Hour ambassador Andre Kuipers will keep watch as countries across the globe turn out their lights for Earth Hour.
- **Live online.** Kuipers will share photos and live commentary through the European Space Agency (ESA) flickr.com/people/astro_andre
- **Swaziland.** Nathi Mzilenzi, a boy from Swaziland who organized Earth Hour in his town Shimunye (population 5,633) in 2010 when he was 15 years old, continues to inspire his community to participate in Earth Hour.
- **Libya.** Just five months after the end of the Libyan uprising, nineteen-year-old Mohammad Nattah will organize Earth Hour in his town of Tripoli for the first time.

New Mexico spaceport approves $7M runway extension

The nearly two-mile-long runway at Spaceport America in southern New Mexico will have to be extended to accommodate Virgin Galactic's sleek rocket-powered spacecraft, spaceport officials confirmed Thursday.

New Mexico Spaceport Authority board members voted during a regular meeting Wednesday to extend the runway by another 2,000 feet. Spaceport America is the world's first terminal, hangar and runway built specifically for commercial space travel.

Virgin Galactic, which will be the spaceport's anchor tenant, determined through a battery of test flights and simulations that more room would be needed for landings under certain circumstances.

"It's really being done for safety," spaceport spokesman David Wilson said. "This is all a product of testing and the characteristics of the vehicle."

Backed by British billionaire Richard Branson, the commercial space line has been developing its craft and rocket engines in California's Mojave Desert. The company plans to begin moving into the hangar and terminal facility later this year, and the runway extension is not expected to cause delays.

The runway was dedicated by Branson and other officials in October 2010 with much fanfare.

Stretching across a flat dusty plain 45 miles north of Las Cruces, the runway is designed to support almost every aircraft in the world, day-to-day space tourism flights and payload launch operations. It is 42 inches thick and includes a 14-inch layer of concrete.

The extension will cost $7 million, Wilson said.

Virgin Galactic has said rocket testing is continuing and commercial flights are at least a year away.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Research in Motion.
Former CEO Jim Balsillie resigns from board

Research in Motion says former co-CEO Jim Balsillie, the hockey-loving executive who for years helped build the BlackBerry into a global force in the smartphone industry, has resigned from the board.

The announcement, symbolic of the changes afoot at Canada's reigning technology leader, came along with a financial report that fell short of analysts' already low expectations.

The company announced from its headquarters in Waterloo, Ont., that it had a loss in the final quarter of its 2011 financial year, rather than the profit that had been expected, as a result of writing down some of its assets.

Sales of the BlackBerry were also below many analysts' expectations. The company, which usually provides guidance about where it expects revenue and profit will be in the near future, said it was discontinuing that practice.

Research In Motion also said it is undertaking a strategic review of its alternatives — a term that can sometimes mean major changes for a company, such as a sale or merger — a process that has essentially been under way for months.

Balsillie — who had been co-chief executive of RIM along with company founder Mike Lazaridis until they stepped aside in January — had become one of Canada's best-known businessmen.

"As I complete my retirement from RIM, I'm grateful for this remarkable experience and for the opportunity to have worked with outstanding professionals who helped turn a Canadian idea into a global success," Balsillie said in a statement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quarterly results

- RIM reported Thursday a loss for its latest quarter of $125 million US, or 24 cents per share, as it took a $355-million charge to goodwill.
- The loss compared with a profit of $934 million, or $1.78 per diluted share, a year ago. Revenue fell to $4.2 billion, down from $5.6 billion.

Panic at the pumps

Drivers line up for fuel on Thursday in St Austell, England. A suggestion by government ministers that drivers should store gas in cans at home appeared to ignite an impulse buying of fuel. MATT CARDY/GETTY IMAGES

Market Moment

DOLLAR
100.33¢ US
(+0.12¢)

TSX 12,339.36 (-74.49)

OIL $102.78 US (-$2.63)

GOLD $1,652.20 US (-$5.70)

Natural gas: $2.15 US (-13¢)
Dow Jones: 13,145.82 (+19.61)

Communications

Rogers laying off 300 employees

Rogers Communications says it is laying off about 300 employees across its operations.

Company spokeswoman Patricia Trott says the cuts are focused on management and head-office positions. Employees were notified on Wednesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

By the numbers

Metro reaching more readers than ever

Sharing quality news for free, at the right time, in the right place and in the right format continues to be the recipe for success at Metro, which grew in all seven markets in which it was measured, according to results released Thursday by the Newspaper Audience Databank (NADbank).

Metro Canada now reaches 1,492,700 daily and 3,388,900 weekly readers coast to coast in Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver. In comparison to NADbank 2010 results, this represents an increase of 129,700, or 10 per cent, more daily readers and 372,100, or 11 per cent, more weekly readers.

"The NADbank results confirm Metro's leadership as the daily newspaper of choice for YAMs (youthful, active metropolitans)," says Bill McDonald, president and publisher of Metro English Canada.

METRO

Supreme Court denies final Livent appeal

It wasn't the finale Garth Drabinsky would have scripted. The Supreme Court lowered the curtain on his long-running legal drama Thursday, leaving the former head of Livent Inc. to serve out his fraud sentence behind bars.

The man who brought lavish spectacles such as The Phantom of the Opera to the public assumed a starring role in a courtroom drama about falsified financial statements that dragged on for 14 years.

He saw his last chance to overturn his conviction dashed when the high court declined to hear his appeal.

An Ontario lower court found Drabinsky and business partner Myron Gottlieb guilty of two counts of fraud in 2009 and sentenced the former impresarios to seven and six years behind bars respectively.

Garth Drabinsky
CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

In 2009, trial judge Mary Lou Benotto imposed a sentence that took into account the magnitude of the company's downfall. Drabinsky and Gottlieb began serving their prison sentences last September. Both men remain in jail.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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OWEN WILSON, VINCE VAUGHN ONE-UPPED BY THE QUEEN

THE LIST
Neil Morton
Metro

1 **Junos honour Simple Plan:** After fan mail from troubled youth who found optimism in their music, Montreal's Simple Plan created the Simple Plan Foundation six years ago to help young people with social and mental-health problems. At the Junos this weekend in Ottawa, they'll be recognized with the Allan Waters Humanitarian Award. Kudos.

2 **Spread the net:** Historic downtown Peterborough, Ont., arts high school PCVS will be featured on CBC's Rick Mercer Report Tuesday for winning the "Spread the Net" fundraising student challenge, used to purchase mosquito nets to help prevent the spread of malaria in African countries. The win is bittersweet, as the local school board has decided to close the school. Learn more at peterboroughneedspcvs.com.

3 **Queen wedding crasher:** The Queen and Prince Philip stunned newlyweds John and Frances Canning, showing up unannounced just after their wedding in Manchester to congratulate them. This was fantastic PR for Buckingham Palace and the Queen. Also, Owen Wilson and Vince Vaughn, you have been replaced if there is ever a Wedding Crashers sequel.

4 **Band Wagon:** A new Canadian YouTube series, Band Wagon, features up-and-coming musicians and bands like the Reason, the Balconies, Union City and Monster Truck driving around in a car singing songs. Great concept, perfect bandwagon to jump on.

5 **James Cameron:** The acclaimed director tweeted @JimCameron on Sunday that he "Just arrived at the ocean's deepest pt. Hitting bottom never felt so good. Can't wait to share what I'm seeing w/ you @DeepChallenge" — a new deep-sea documentary based on his adventures in his one-man sub. Cameron reaches the world's deepest point? I'm still trying to reach the deep end of my pool.

6 **Quebec Nordiques**: Quebec City is starting construction on an NHL-style arena this fall, paving the way for them to get an NHL team. The arena should be done by 2015. There's no guarantee they'll get a team again but, fingers crossed, we'll see a Nordiques team skating there soon. The Winnipeg Jets are back, why not the Nordiques? And then the Cleveland Barons.

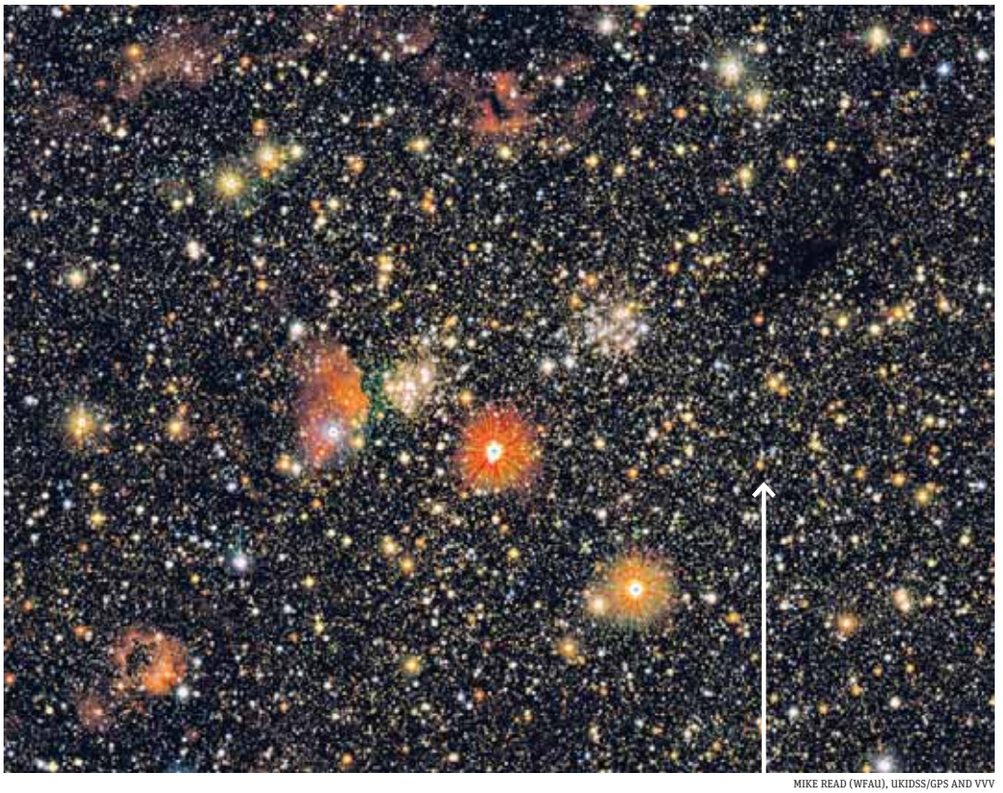
7 **Jian Ghomeshi:** The host of CBC's radio show Q said in a personal finance Q & A that the best money-saving advice came from his parents: "Be patient. Try to avoid spending money in spontaneous ways." If only that simple advice was given to kids by every parent, we wouldn't have quite as many Canadians in debt.

8 **Pizza fan applause:** Things are so bad on the Toronto sports scene that the loudest applause is when the Raptors score 100 points at home games, as everyone gets a free slice of pizza. "It's tough when your fans get more excited about a slice of pizza than us winning," said Raptors coach Dwane Casey. Reality bites.

9 **April Fool's Day:** Sunday is April 1. Don't do anything I wouldn't do. In other words, give'r, pranksters.

A scene from Wedding Crashers, where Owen Wilson, left, and Vince Vaughn play divorce mediators who spend their weekends crashing weddings. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Twinkle, twinkle, that's a lot of stars



MIKE READ (WFAU), UKIDSS/GPS AND VVV

Space

Starriest photo sets a record

More than one-billion stars in the Milky Way can be seen together in detail for the first time in a photograph captured by astronomers. Scientists from the U.K., Europe and Chile made the picture by combining thousands of infra-red-light images from two telescopes in both of our planet's hemispheres.

MWN

Image

Zoom deeper to find more stars

The above image is a mere fraction of the entire picture, which alone contains more than 10,000 stars. "Compared to the composite image we took 10 years ago, this one is 100 times deeper," Nick Cross, an astronomer at the University of Edinburgh in charge of archiving the image, told Metro.

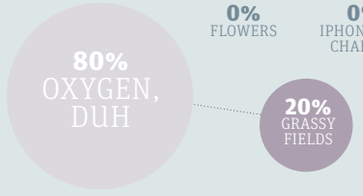
MWN

The galactic centre of the Milky Way, the galaxy's brightest section.
MIKE READ (WFAU), UKIDSS/GPS AND VVV

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

If you were to relocate to the moon, what's the one item you'd like to take from Earth?



Twitter

@kevindufault: Hooray for the Canadian Government phasing out the penny. I always threw them at seagulls and squirrels anyway

@mjecclestone: Will no longer be charging a penny for my thoughts. Minimum rate: A nickle. 500% increase folks. That's the cost of doing business.

@lenmac1: God! I can hear the pro-penny activists now: "No Cents makes No Sense!"

@lauratoogood: Maybe I'll cut my own #Penny with a hacksaw and put it on display!

@camcarson97: Penny's gone, so do my thoughts cost a nickel? They weren't even worth a penny!

metro
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Julia Roberts butchers an English accent and Lily Collins bears an uncanny resemblance to the cartoon Snow White in Mirror Mirror. HANDOUT

A reflection of mediocrity

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Mirror Mirror.
Tarsem Singh's take on Snow White fails with the Reel Guys.
Ned Ehrbar sits in for Mark Breslin this week

Richard: Ned, as with all of Tarsem Singh Dhandwar's films, Mirror Mirror is beautiful to look at. He certainly has an eye for set decoration. But in this case I wish they had spent the money on gag writers rather than lavish sets. I know it is supposed to be a family movie, but even five year olds deserve better than the old hat slapstick and word play on display here. Even the seven dwarfs on their spring-loaded stilts can't put any bounce into this fractured fairy tale.

Ned: There are some really painful moments, agreed. The odd mix of modern mannerisms and speech with the period/fairy tale setting was supposed to seem hip and playful, I think, but it just fell flat. And speaking of flat — and those Tarsem visuals — while the interiors of the palace and the costumes looked amazing, the mysterious forest where much of the action takes place felt so thin and set-like. I expect more from Tarsem in that department.

Synopsis

Julia Roberts plays the evil step-queen to the beautiful Snow White (Lily Collins). After Snow's father, the King (Sean Bean), mysteriously disappears, the Queen brings the country to the brink of bankruptcy and locks Snow away. But when the young princess attracts the attention of a young prince (Armie Hammer) the jealous Queen orders Snow murdered. Instead, she is set free in the forest where she is found by seven dwarfs.

- **Richard:** ●○○○○
- **Ned:** ●●○○○

RC: I expected more from him period. The cast, however, I did think was trying. Collins is picture perfect as Snow White — she bears an uncanny resemblance to the cartoon version — and Armie Hammer, should his career survive the dreadful dog impression he has to do here, has a future playing handsome princes. Julia Roberts is the star attraction and while her comedic timing is in place, the lines she has to say don't connect. What did you think of the cast?

NE: Hammer was definitely perfectly cast as Prince Charming, proving he can do just about anything — even that cringe-inducing puppy scene — and still remain regal. Collins was perfectly fine, though her role consisted mostly of reacting to other characters and reiterating the movie's main themes. But Roberts lost me when she couldn't keep up what I can only imagine is supposed to be a British accent for more than a couple of sentences. The performance was all over the place, and honestly I just wanted her to be meaner.

RC: Was she supposed to be doing an English accent? I ask rhetorically. Not since Kevin Costner's Robin Hood has the Standard British accent taken such a mauling. What she does to the Queen's English is evil enough, she doesn't need to be any crueler to get the point across.

NE: Overall, this was an unfortunate mix of risky and safe moves, with not enough of the former.

2
SCENE

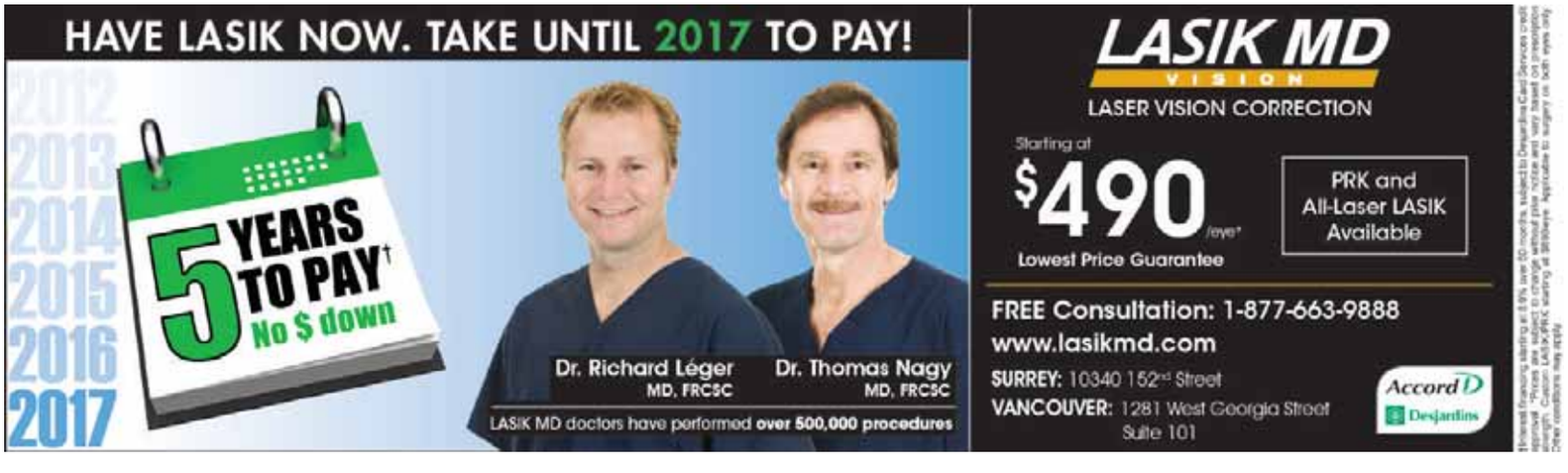
Scene in brief

Avengers to close Tribeca

The superhero bonanza The Avengers will close the 11th annual Tribeca Film Festival. The festival announced Wednesday that the Marvel epic will be the festival's closing night film on April 28. The film, directed by Joss Whedon and starring Robert Downey Jr., is based on the comic book series that unites Iron Man, the Incredible Hulk, Thor, Captain America and others. The Tribeca Film Festival runs from April 18 to April 29. Opening the festival will be The Five-Year Engagement, a comedy starring Jason Segel and produced by Judd Apatow.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Sea, sand, Jerusalem: Chariots of Fire remastered for London Olympics



Anchorman 2. It's time to crack open that bottle of Sex Panther

This is kind of a big deal: After years of trying to get it off the ground, newscaster Ron Burgundy (Will Ferrell) will finally be back in Anchorman 2.

"I want to announce this to everyone in the Americas, to our friends in Spain, Turkey and the U.K., including England," he said on Wednesday night's Conan show, in full character. "That as of 0900 Mountain time, Paramount Pictures and myself, Ronald Joseph Aaron Burgundy, have come to terms on a sequel to Anchorman. It is official, there will be a sequel to Anchorman." Yes indeed, if you are a Burgundy fan, this is kind of a big deal.

METRO

Ron Burgundy is back. Stay classy San Diego. HANDOUT

Titanic 3D not a cash grab says Sam Worthington

Controversy. Star of Avatar comes to the defence of director James Cameron, saying a lot of work went into the 3D

Director James Cameron, who recently spent a few hours at the deepest point in the ocean in the Mariana Trench, is about to release his monster blockbuster hit Titanic in 3D format. It was once the most successful movie of all time, raking in $1.84 billion in 1997, but was beat out by Cameron's other landmark 3D film Avatar with a whopping $2.77 billion.

So, does this whole 3D conversion of the story of Jack and Rose start to smell a little like a lame money-grab?

Sam Worthington, star of Avatar, came to the defence of the director while promoting his own upcoming 3D film, Wrath of the Titans:

"Audiences are smart. They know when you just put the 3D on and it's just to get money. They know it. And also the 3D can be very simplified.

"This at least, I believe the guys pushed themselves a bit to try to push the 3D and I think audiences will notice that. They're going to see that Titanic 3D as well — that Jim [Cameron] hasn't just tacked it on to get extra bucks."

METRO

Quoted

"Audiences are smart. They know when you just put the 3D on and it's just to get money."

Avatar star Sam Worthington on film studios using 3D just to make money

Titanic sails into theatres in 3D next Friday. HANDOUT

Tara Reid's bumpy ride to the 'reunion'

Comeback. Actress best known as American Pie's virginal Vicky talks about her highs and lows, and where Bunny might be now

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

HANDOUT

The first thing you notice in Tara Reid's hotel suite is a helium-filled mylar balloon emblazoned with her smiling face, bobbing near the ceiling behind the actress herself. It can be a little distracting, even when talking to the woman herself, looking fresh and bright and happy to be working again with her American Pie crew. But getting from American Pie to American Reunion wasn't the smoothest of roads.

The first thing I remember seeing you in was the Big Lebowski. What was it like at that point in your career, going from that into Urban Legend into American Pie?
Well, the Coen Brothers are legendary. They're iconic, they're amazing. I loved working with them, and Jeff Bridges was amazing. That whole cast was fantastic. But then American Pie 1 was the Weitz brothers, so it was two again. And then this one, it's two again [with co-directors Jon Hurwitz and Hayden Schlossberg]. I love working with two directors.

Do you have a preference, would you say?
It's like if you have twins saying you like having twins better than having one child. I've enjoyed all of the experiences I've been on, and I've been lucky and fortunate with the directors I've worked with.

Quoted

"I've been playing this girl and she's been a part of my life for 13 years. I really like Vicky, I enjoy playing her. And I loved what Jon and Hayden did with her."
Tara Reid on her American Pie character Vicky.

Then you go on to things like Alone in the Dark, the reality series Taradise. What did that section of your career feel like?
Everything is different chapters in your life, and I've been through many chapters and many experiences, and now I'm off to my next one. But, you know, to be continued.

So for that next chapter, that "to be continued," what do you have in mind?
I just want to keep going forward and keep making great films and keep growing.

Now you come back with American Reunion, getting the band together again. How do you approach that, picking up this character 13 years after the first one?
It's like it's like riding a bike. Once you get back on, boom, you never forget how to ride it. And I've been playing this girl and she's been a part of my life for 13 years. I really like Vicky, I enjoy playing her. And I loved what Jon and Hayden did with her and where they took her. It really tied up from the first one to this one. It really connected the dots.

Are there any other past characters that you would like to revisit?
Bunny. Let's go back to Bunny. Let's see what she's up to now (laughs).

What do you think Bunny would be up to now?
Who knows? Who knows? She'd probably be on a Housewives of Beverly Hills, yeah (laughs).

Stifler's mom. The original cougar loves the thrill of the hunt

Jennifer Coolidge has fun with her 'Stifler's Mom' character.
HANDOUT

She had her own ideas for the latest film
I really liked the script, but I did fight with them. I did say that I thought I should sleep with Finch [played by Eddie Kaye Thomas] one last time before I do some other stuff. I did want that to happen, and I was very firm about it ... They said, 'Jennifer, Stifler's Mom needs to evolve and she needs to grow, and she can't just be sleeping with this young boy occasionally.' I don't know how they convinced me, I'm very stubborn.

The young men in the cast have grown up quite a bit
I've noticed that they've gotten way more in touch with their sexuality. All the boys must be going to some famous Hollywood trainer.

She had a few more conquests in mind for Stifler's Mom
I always pictured myself having sex with, like, Oz [played by Chris Klein]. I thought that Stifler's Mom would move on to some other kids. The only one I wouldn't sleep with was Stifler [played by Seann William Scott], because they wouldn't allow that. They wouldn't go that far. But I wouldn't mind that at all.
NED EHRBAR, MWN

Jim's dad. Eugene Levy dishes about his hookup in American Reunion

On almost not doing American Pie
When I first read the script, it scared me. I said, 'No, I can't do this. I can't do this movie.' My manager at the time said I should go in and take a meeting, and I said, 'Why? It's too out there for me. This is a kids' movie. Why would I want to be in a movie I wouldn't go and see?'

Quoted

"When I first read the script (for American Pie) it scared me. I said, 'No, I can't do this. I can't do this movie."
Eugene Levy on almost not taking the role of Jim's dad in American Pie

That standard, apparently, doesn't always apply
I haven't [seen the straight-to-DVD sequels]. I really haven't.

He's happy about his American Reunion hookup
It almost seems like a no-brainer in a way, Stifler's Mom and Jim's Dad, but I've always been married. The fact that Jim's Dad is now a widower, I thought that was really interesting — shocking but interesting.
NED EHRBAR, MWN

Quoted

"Wrath of the Titans was a completely different experience for me. The characters that I've played so far, they have inhabited a naturalistic, realistic world. So for me, it was very interesting to explore this sort of fantasy. Fantasy, mythology and special effects — a world of imagination, of what the Greek myths could have been...."

Actor Edgar Ramirez, who plays Ares, the god of war, in Wrath of the Titans, and received critical acclaim for his work in the three-part miniseries Carlos.
METRO

Drama

Love in the Buff

Director. Pang Ho-Cheung

Stars. Miriam Yeung, Shawn Yue

Love in the Buff is the rebuttal to all those love stories that assume the couple lives happily ever after. The sequel to Love in a Puff, which found Hong Kong couple Cherie and Jimmy falling in love after meeting over cigarettes, reveals that the two now live together, but are slowly succumbing to the challenges that come with any relationship. Chinese writer director Pang Ho-Cheung uses the romantic dramedy framework to lets his characters grow up both together and apart the way any real couple does. Much of the realness of their relationship comes from Ho-Cheung's ability to convey the complexities of relationships through the minutiae of everyday conversation, not to mention Miriam Yeung and Shawn Yue's natural chemistry. Ho-Cheung peppers his script with generous doses of humour, that crop up even in the film's most heavy scenes, creating an emotionally uplifting story.
IAN GORMELY

Action

Wrath of the Titans

Director. Jonathan Liebesman

Stars. Sam Worthington, Liam Neeson, Rosamund Pike

Critics hated 2009's Clash of the Titans for the same reasons critics hate everything that isn't for them: they wanted it to be something other than it was intended to be. But with this brawny sequel, even the harshest of film elitist will be hard pressed to condemn it. Wrath of the Titans is a kind of masterwork of monster mash pop art. I mean, this thing is just wall to wall creatures of every size, shape and strength and the eye widening ways in which half God son of Zeus Perseus (again played by Sam Worthington, settled considerably into the role) stabs, bashes and destroys them is downright glorious. The cynic in you may start to question the plot and the pithy character motivations but please, for heavens sake, don't let that happen; just allow your inner 12 year old to embrace the stunningly rendered set pieces and enjoy... especially in the impressive 3D version.
CHRIS ALEXANDER

318_Tagline BOX

Norwegian Wood

Director. Anh Hung Tran

Stars. Ken'ichi Matsuyama, Rinko Kikuchi, Kiko Mizuhara

Based on Haruki Murakami's 1987 novel and brought to the screen by Oscar nominee Tran Anh Hung, Norwegian Wood is a transcendent look at first love, loss and desire. The film is ripe with melancholy, from the deep exploration of the grief over a friend's suicide to the beautiful shots of stark landscapes. Occasionally it veers into melodrama as it focuses on the inner turmoil of its main players — Toru (Kenichi Matsuyama) and Naoko (Rinko Kikuchi) — but its dreamlike quality and recreation of 1967 earns it a recommendation.
RICHARD CROUSE

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Vancouver

OMNIMAX Theatre Science World 1455 Quebec St., 604-443-7443

Arabia (STC) Fri 11-1 Sat-Sun 1-3 Mon-Thu 11-1 Dinosaurs Alive! (STC) Fri 12-2 Sat-Sun 12-2-4
Rocky Mountain Express (STC) Mon-Thu 12-2

Denman Cinemas 1779 Comox, 604-558-3456

The Descendants (PG) Fri 12 Sun-Wed 12
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri-Thu 9:10 The Iron Lady (PG) Fri 2:20 Sat 1:20 Sun-Thu 2:20
Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (14A) Fri 6:40 Sun-Thu 6:40
The Vow (PG) Fri 4:30 Sun-Thu 4:30

Dunbar Theatre 4555 Dunbar Street, 604-222-2991

The Hunger Games (PG) Fri 3:30-7-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:30-7-9:50 Mon-Thu 5-8:15

Fifth Avenue Cinemas 2110 Burrard Street, 604-734-7469

Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1
Footnote (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4-7:10-9:25
The Hunger Games (PG) Wed-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:30
Jeff, Who Lives at Home (PG) Fri 1:15-4:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:15-4:15-7:30-9:30 Mon-Tue 1:15-4:15-9:30
My Brilliant Career (STC) A.M. Sat 10
People of a Feather (STC) Fri-Thu 3-5-7:20-9:15
Pina 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:45-3:45-6:50-9
Salmon Fishing in the Yemen (PG) Fri-Sun 2-4:30-7-9:20 Mon 2-4:30-9:20 Tue-Thu 2-4:30-7-9:20

Granville 855 Granville St., 604-684-4000

Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG) Fri 6:35-9:20 Sat 3:55-6:35-9:20 Sun 9:20 Mon-Thu 5:30-8:10
Monsieur Lazhar (STC) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 4:25-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:55-8:25
Payback: Debt and the Shadow Side of Wealth (G) Fri 6:55-9:40 Sat-Sun 4:15-6:55-9:40 Mon-Thu 6-8:30
Red Light Revolution (14A) Fri 6:40-9:35 Sat-Sun 4:05-6:40-9:35 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:15
Servitude (14A) Fri 6:30-9:15 Sat-Sun 4-6:30-9:15 Mon-Thu 5:35-8:05
Wanderlust (14A) Fri 6:50-9:25 Sat-Sun 4:20-6:50-9:25 Mon-Thu 5:40-8
We Need to Talk About Kevin (14A) Fri 6:45-9:10 Sat-Sun 4:10-6:45-9:10 Mon-Thu 5:45-8:20
Wrestlemania (STC) Sun 4

Pacific Cinémathèque 1131 Howe Street, 604-688-3456

Les Anges du Péché (STC) Wed 6:30
The Ballad of Genesis and Lady Jaye (18A) Sun 6:30 Mon 8:20
Bobby (STC) Sat 6:30
Les Dames du Bois de Boulogne (STC) Wed 8:20
Diable, probablement (STC) Thu 8
Hometown Boy (STC) Fri 7
Mera Naam Joker (STC) Sat 2
No Films Showing Today (STC) Tue
Pickpocket (STC) Thu 6:30
West Wind: A Vision of Tom Thomson (G) Sun 4:30-8 Mon 6:30

Park Theatre 3440 Cambie Street, 604-876-2747

The Hunger Games (PG) Fri 4-7-9:55 Sat-Sun 1-4-7-9:55 Mon-Tue 4-7-9:55
Titanic 3D (14A) Wed-Thu 3:30-7:30
Verdi's Ernani (STC) A.M. Sat 9
Ridge Theatre 3131 Arbutus Street, 604-738-6311
Forks Over Knives (G) Thu 7
Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri 4-7-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:30-4-7-9:15 Mon-Wed 4-7-9:15 Thu 4-9:45

Rio on Broadway 1660 E. Broadway, 604-878-Film

No Films Showing Today (STC) Fri Mon-Thu
On the Line (STC) Sat-Sun 3
Scotiabank Theatre Vancouver 900 Burrard St., 604-630-1407
21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Sat 12:10-2:50-5:30-8:10-10:55 Sun 2-5-8-10:35 Mon-Thu 2-5-7:50-10:25
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri 12-12:20-12:50-1:15-3:10-3:30-4:10-4:30-6:30-7:10-7:30-7:50-9:50-10:25-10:45-11:10 Sat 11-12-12:20-12:50-3:10-3:30-4:10-4:40-6:30-7:10-7:30-7:50-9:50-10:25-10:45-11:10 Sun 12-12:20-12:50-1:15-3:10-3:30-4:10-4:30-6:30-7:10-7:30-8:30-9:50-10:25-10:45 Mon 12:15-12:30-1:30-2:30-3:20-3:40-4:40-6-6:50-8:20-9:30-10-10:30 Tue-Wed 12:30-12:50-1:30-2:30-3:40-4-4:40-6-6:50-7:15-8:20-9:30-10-10:30 Thu 12:30-12:50-1:30-2:30-3:40-4-4:40-6-7:15-8:20-9:30-10-10:30
John Carter 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-4-7:20-10:30 Mon-Thu 12:40-3:50-7:10-10:10 The Metropolitan Opera: Ernani - Encore (STC) Sat 9:55
Rascal Flatts: Changed (STC) Thu 7
Titanic 3D (14A) Mon 6:30
Wrath of the Titans (14A) Fri-Sun 12-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:20 Mon-Thu 1-3:30-7:25-9:50
Wrath of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri 12:40-3:20-5:45-8:15-10:50 Sat 10:30-2:05-3:20-5:45-8:15-10:50 Sun 12:40-3:20-5:45-8:10-10:40 Mon-Thu 1:40-4:10-7:55-10:20

Vancity Theatre Vancouver International Film Centre, 1181 Seymour Street, 604-683-Film

Aria (STC) Thu 7
Machuca (STC) Tue 7:30
Norwegian Wood (14A) Fri-Sat 8:30 Sun 3:30-8:15 Mon 6:30 Wed 6:30 Thu 3:30
The Salesman (G) Fri-Sat 6:30 Sun 6:15 Wed 8:50 Thu 1:30

North Shore

Esplanade 6 200 West Esplanade, 604-983-2762

John Carter (PG) Fri 6:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:45 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 3:35-6:30-9:30
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (G) Fri 7:10 Sat-Sun 1:10-3:25-7:10 Mon-Thu 7:10
Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri 6:35-7-9:10-9:35 Sat-Sun 1-1:20-3:40-4-6:35-7-9:10-9:35 Mon-Thu 6:35-7-9:10-9:35
Safe House (PG) Fri-Thu 9:25
Wrath of the Titans (14A) Fri 6:50-9:20 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:20-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:20 Fri 7:20-9:45 Sat-Sun 1:30-3:55-7:20-9:45 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:45

Park & Tilford 333 Brooksbank Ave., 604-985-3911

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 1-4-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:40
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Sat-Sun 1:20 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri 7:10-9:20 Sat-Sun 4:10-7:10-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:20
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri 6:30-7:20-9:40-10:20 Sat 1:15-3:15-4:15-6:30-7:20-9:40-10:20 Sun 12:15-1:15-3:15-4:15-6:30-7:20-9:40-10:20 Mon-Tue 6:50-7:10-9:50-10:10 Wed 6:50-9:50-10:10 Thu 6:50-7:10-9:50-10:10 Fri 6:50-10 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:45-6:50-10 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening, Thu 1
The Metropolitan Opera: Ernani - Encore (STC) Sat 9:55
Salmon Fishing in the Yemen (PG) Fri 6:40-9:10 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:40-9:10 Mon-Tue 6:40-9:10
Titanic 3D (14A) Wed-Thu 7:30

Richmond

SilverCity Riverport 14211 Entertainment Way, 604-272-7280

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:35-6:45-7:20-9:55-10:20
Act of Valor (14A) Fri-Thu 12:55-4:25-7:25-10:25
Agent Vinod (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-4:15-7:50
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Sat 12:45-3:15 Sun 12:45 Mon-Thu 12:45-3:15
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri-Thu 12-2:10-4:20-6:30-8:45
Friends With Kids (14A) Fri-Wed 1:05-4-7:45-10:30 Thu 4-7:45-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Housefull 2 (STC) Thu 2-5:55-9:20
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri 11:40-12-12:25-12:50-1:30-2:50-3:20-3:50-4:10-4:45-6-6:30-7-7:30-8-9:15-9:45-10:15-10:45 Sat 11:40-12:25-12:50-1:30-2:50-3:20-3:50-4:10-4:45-6-6:30-7-7:30-8-9:15-9:45-10:15-10:45 Sun 11:40-12-12:25-12:50-1:30-2:50-3:20-3:50-4:10-4:45-6-6:30-7-7:30-8-9:15-9:45-10:15-10:45 Mon-Wed 11:55-12-12:25-12:50-1:30-3:05-3:20-3:50-4:10-4:45-6:15-6:30-7-7:30-8-9:30-9:45-10:15-10:45 Thu 12-12:25-12:50-1:30-3:20-3:50-4:10-4:45-6:30-7-7:30-8-9:45-10:15-10:45
John Carter (PG) Fri-Sat 6:35-10:05 Sun 10:05 Mon-Thu 6:35-10:05
John Carter 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15-3:45-7:10-10:35
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (G) Fri-Thu 12:40-4:05
Love in the Buff (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:05-7:10-10:15
The Metropolitan Opera: Ernani - Encore (STC) Sat 9:55
Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri-Wed 12:45-3:45-6:50-9:50 Thu 3:45-6:50-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening, Thu 1
The Neverending Story (STC) Sat 11
Safe House (PG) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:55-7:05-10:10
Wrath of the Titans (14A) Fri-Thu 1-3:55-6:55-10:20
Wrath of the Titans: An IMAX 3D Experience (14A) Fri-Thu 12:30-2:50-5:10-7:30-9:50
WWE WrestleMania XXVIII (STC) Sun 4

Burnaby

Dolphin Cinemas 4555 E. Hastings St., 604-293-0332

The Hunger Games (PG) Fri 4-6:45-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:15-4-6:45-9:30 Mon-Thu 4-6:45-9:30
Wrath of the Titans (14A) Fri 5:15-7:15-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:15-5:15-7:15-9:15 Mon-Thu 5:15-7:15-9:15

SilverCity Metropolis 4700 Kingsway Ave., 604-435-7474

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Sat 12:10-2:50-5:30-8:10-10:50 Sun 12:10-2:50-5:30-8:10-10:45 Mon-Thu 2:15-4:55-7:45-10:25
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:10-3:30-5:50-8:10-10:25 Mon-Thu 1:40-4:30-7:15-9:30
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri 11:45-12:25-12:50-3:05-3:50-4:10-6:15-7-7:30-9:30-10:15-10:45 Sat 11:45-12:25-1:15-3:05-3:50-4:25-6:15-7-7:40-9:30-10:15-10:55 Sun 11:45-12:25-12:50-3:05-3:50-4:10-6:15-7-7:30-9:30-10:15-10:45 Mon-Wed 12:30-12:45-1-3:35-3:50-4-6:45-7-7:15-10-10:15-10:30 Thu 12:30-12:45-1-3:35-3:50-4-6:45-7:15-10-10:15-10:30
John Carter 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:25-7:30-10:40 Mon-Thu 1:20-4:25-7:30-10:30
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (G) Fri-Sat 12:25-2:50-5:15 Sun 12:25 Mon 1:10-4 Tue 12:30-2:50-5:15
Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri-Sun 12-2:35-5:10-7:45-10:20 Mon-Thu 1:50-4:30-7:20-9:55
The Neverending Story (STC) Sat 11
Project X (18A) Fri-Sat 7:40-10:05 Sun 8:30-10:55 Mon 10:30 Tue 7:40-10:05
Titanic 3D (14A) Mon 6:30 Wed-Thu 1:10-5:20-9:30
Wrath of the Titans (14A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30 Mon-Thu 1:30-4:40-7:40-10:10
Wrath of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 1-3:30-6-8:30-11 Mon-Thu 2-5:10-7:50-10:20
WWE WrestleMania XXVIII (STC) Sun 4

Station Square 220-6200 McKay Ave., 604-434-7711

Act of Valor (14A) Fri 4:25-7:10-9:45 Sat 1:40-4:25-7:10-9:45 Sun 1:40-4:20-7:10 Mon-Wed 4:25-7:10 Thu 4:25-7:10-9:45
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri 4:30-6:50-9:25 Sat 1:55-4:30-6:50-9:25 Sun 1:55-4:25-6:50 Mon-Wed 4:30-6:50 Thu 4:30-6:50-9:25
Love in the Buff (PG) Fri 4:20-6:55-9:35 Sat 1:35-4:20-6:55-9:35 Sun 1:35-4:20-6:55 Mon-Wed 4:20-6:55 Thu 4:20-6:55-9:35
Safe House (PG) Fri 4:15-7-9:40 Sat 1:30-4:15-7-9:40 Sun 1:30-4:15-7 Mon-Wed 4:15-7 Thu 4:15-7-9:40
The Secret World of Arrietty (G) Fri 4:45 Sat 1:45-4:45 Sun 1:45-4:40 Mon-Thu 4:45
Silent House (14A) Fri 4:40-7:20-9:55 Sat 2-4:40-7:20-9:55 Sun 2-4:35-7:20 Mon-Wed 4:40-7:20 Thu 4:40-7:20-9:55
A Thousand Words (PG) Fri-Sat 7:05-9:30 Sun-Wed 7:05 Thu 7:05-9:30
The Vow (PG) Fri 4:35-7:15-9:50 Sat 1:50-4:35-7:15-9:50 Sun 1:50-4:30-7:15 Mon-Wed 4:35-7:15 Thu 4:35-7:15-9:50

New West/ Coquitlam

SilverCity Coquitlam 170 Schoolhouse Street, 604-523-2911

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri 1:05-4:10-7-10 Sat 1:35-4:10-7-10 Sun-Thu 1:05-4:10-7-10 Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:20-10:05
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Sat 12:05-2:30-4:55 Sun 12:05 Mon-Thu 12:05-2:30-4:55 Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:30-5:50-8:10-10:25
Friends With Kids (14A) Fri-Tue 1:20-4:20-7:15-9:55 Wed 4:20-7:15-9:55 Thu 1:20-4:20-7:15-9:55 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sat 11:45-12:15-1:30-3-3:50-4:45-6:30-7:05-7:30-8:15-9:45-10:15-10:35 Sun 11:45-12:15-1:30-3-3:50-4:45-6:30-7:30-8:15-9:45-10:15-10:35 Mon-Wed 12:15-1:30-3-3:50-4:45-6:30-7:05-7:30-8:15-9:45-10:15-10:35 Thu 12:15-1:30-3-3:50-4:45-6:30-7:30-8:15-9:45-10:15-10:35 Fri-Tue 12-3:30-7-10:25 Wed-Thu 12:20-3:30-7-10:25 Fri-Thu 12:45-4-7:15-10:30
John Carter (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4:25-7:35-10:40 John Carter 3D (PG) Fri-Tue 12:15-3:10-6:45-9:45
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (G) Fri-Tue 1:15 The Metropolitan Opera: Ernani - Encore (STC) Sat 9:55
Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri-Tue 12:10-2:45-5:20-7:50-10:40 Wed 5:20-7:50-10:40 Thu 12:10-2:45-5:20-7:50-10:40 Fri-Thu 1:10-3:50-6:30-9:20 Star & Strollers Screening, Wed 1
Nameless Gangster (STC) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:35-6:55-10:05
The Neverending Story (STC) Sat 11
Rascal Flatts: Changed (STC) Thu 7
Safe House (PG) Fri 1:50-4:35-8:05-10:40 Sat 4:35-8:05-10:40 Sun-Thu 1:50-4:35-8:05-10:40 Salmon Fishing in the Yemen (PG) Fri-Tue 3:45-6:35-9:20
Titanic 3D (14A) Wed-Thu 12:30-4:40-9 Wed-Thu 12-4:10-8:30
Wrath of the Titans (14A) Fri-Thu 12-2:30-5:10-7:45-10:15
Wrath of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30 Fri-Thu 1:50-4:50-8:10-10:45 WWE WrestleMania XXVIII (STC) Sun 4

Surrey/White Rock/ Langley

Clova 5732-176th St., Surrey, 604-541-9527

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri-Thu 9 Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (G) Sat-Sun 1:30
The Vow (PG) Fri-Thu 7

Hollywood 3 Cinema 7125-138th Street, Surrey, 604-592-4441

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) Sat-Sun 1-3
The Artist (G) Fri-Thu 6:50
Big Miracle (G) Sat-Sun 2:50
The Iron Lady (PG) Fri-Thu 4:45-6:50
Project X (18A) Fri-Thu 9:10
Safe House (PG) Fri-Thu 8:55
The Secret World of Arrietty (G) Fri 5 Sat-Sun 1:15-5 Mon-Thu 5
The Vow (PG) Fri 8:50 Sat-Sun 3-8:50 Mon-Thu 8:50 Wanderlust (14A) Fri-Thu 4:55 We Bought a Zoo (PG) Fri 6:50 Sat-Sun 12:30-6:50 Mon-Thu 6:50

Strawberry Hill Grande
12161-72nd Ave, Surrey, 604-501-9400

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:55-5:35-8:10-10:50 Mon 2:05-4:40-7:30-10:05 Tue 12:10-2:55-5:35-8:10-10:50 Wed-Thu 2:05-4:40-7:30-10:05
Agent Vinod (PG) Fri-Sun 12:10-3:35-7-10:25 Mon 2:30-6:30-9:50 Tue 12:10-3:35-7-10:25 Wed-Thu 2:30-6:30-9:50
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Thu 1:05
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri-Thu 3:25-5:50-8:05-10:25
Housefull 2 (STC) Thu 1-4:40-8:30
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sat 12-12:50-3:20-4:10-6:30-7:30-9:45-10:45 Sun 12-12:50-3:20-3:50-4:10-6:30-7-7:30-9:45-10:45 Mon 12:55-1:15-4:10-4:25-7:20-7:35-10:30-10:40 Tue 12-12:50-3:20-4:10-6:30-7:30-9:45-10:45 Wed 1:15-4:10-4:25-7:20-7:35-10:30-10:40 Thu 12:55-1:15-4:10-4:25-7:20-7:35-10:30-10:40 Fri-Sat 11:40-12:25-2:50-3:50-6:05-7-9:20-10:15 Sun 11:40-12:25-2:50-6:05-9:20-10:15 Mon 12:45-2:50-3:55-6-7:05-9:15-10:15 Tue 11:40-12:25-2:50-3:50-6:05-7-9:20-10:15 Wed 12:45-2:50-3:55-6-7:05-9:15-10:15 Thu 2:50-6-9:15 Star & Strollers Screening, Wed 1 John Carter 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 7:25-10:40 Mon 7:10-10:20 Tue 7:25-10:40
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:25 Mon 1:20-4:20 Tue 1:20-4:25 Kahaani (PG) Fri 1:20-4:05-7:05-10 Sat 1:10-4:05-7:05-10 Sun 1-10:10 Mon 1:10-4:05-7-10 Tue 1:20-4:05-7:05-10 Wed-Thu 1:10-4:05-7-10
Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri-Sun 12-2:35-5:10-7:45-10:10 Mon 2-4:30-7:15-9:45 Tue 12-2:35-5:10-7:45-10:10 Wed 4:30-7:15-9:45 Thu 2-4:30-7:15-9:45 Star & Strollers Screening, Wed 1
The Neverending Story (STC) Sat 11
Titanic 3D (14A) Wed-Thu 12:45-4:45-8:45 Wrath of the Titans (14A) Fri-Sun 12:15-2:45-5:30-8-10:20 Mon 2:10-4:45-7:40-10:10 Tue 12:15-2:45-5:30-8-10:20 Wed-Thu 2:10-4:45-7:40-10:10
Wrath of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 1-3:30-6-8:30-10:50 Mon 12:50-3:20-5:45-8:15-10:35 Tue 1-3:30-6-8:30-10:50 Wed-Thu 12:50-3:20-5:45-8:15-10:35
WWE WrestleMania XXVIII (STC) Sun 4

Studio 12 Guildford 15051-101st Ave, Surrey, 604-581-1176

21 Jump Street (14A) , Fri 4:40-7:35-10:10 , Sat-Sun 2:05-4:40-7:35-10:10 , Mon 5:50-8:25 , Tue 4:40-7:35-10:10 , Wed 5:50-8:25 , Thu 4:40-7:35-10:10
Agent Vinod (PG) , Fri 4:25-8 , Sat-Sun 1-4:25-8 , Mon 5-8:20 , Tue 4:25-8 , Wed 5-8:20 , Thu 4:25-8
The Hunger Games (PG) , , Fri 3:45-4:30-6:30-7-7:45-9-9:45 , , Sat-Sun 1:15-2:15-3:45-4:30-6:30-7-7:45-9-9:45 , , Mon 5:10-5:40-7:40-8:10-8:40 , , Tue 3:45-4:30-6:30-7-7:45-9-9:45 , , Wed 5:10-5:40-7:40-8:10-8:40 , , Thu 3:45-4:30-6:30-7-7:45-9-9:45
John Carter (PG) , Sat-Sun 1:05
John Carter 3D (PG) , Fri-Sun 3:55-6:50-9:55 , Mon 5:15-8:45 , Tue 3:55-6:50-9:55
The Lorax (STC) , Fri 4:20-7:20-9:30 , Sat-Sun 1:35-4:20-7:20-9:30 , Mon 5:25-7:55 , Tue 4:20-7:20-9:30 , Wed 5:25-7:55 , Thu 4:20-7:20-9:30
Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri 4:15-7:15-10 , , Sat-Sun 1:45-4:15-7:15-10 , , Mon 5:20-7:50 , , Tue 4:15-7:15-10 , Wed 5:20-7:50 Thu 4:15-7:15-10
A Thousand Words (PG) , Fri 4:10-6:15-9:15 , Sat-Sun 1:50-4:10-6:15-9:15 , Mon 5:25-7:30 , Tue 4:10-6:15-9:15 , Wed 5:25-7:30 , Thu 4:10-6:15-9:15
Titanic 3D (14A) , , Wed 8:15 , Thu 4:05-8:15 Wrath of the Titans (14A) , Fri 4-6:45-9:15 , Sat-Sun 1:30-4-6:45-9:15 , Mon 5:30-8 , Tue 4-6:45-9:15 , Wed 5:30-8 , Thu 4-6:45-9:15
Wrath of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri 4:45-7:30-10:15 Sat-Sun 2-4:45-7:30-10:15 Mon 6-8:30 Tue 4:45-7:30-10:15 Wed 6-8:30 Thu 4:45-7:30-10:15
WWE WrestleMania XXVIII (STC) Sun 4

Rialto 1732-152nd Street, White Rock, 604-541-9527

The Descendants (PG) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 2-7 Mon-Thu 7 Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri 7:10-9:15 Sat-Sun 2:10-7:10-9:15 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:15 Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (14A) Fri-Thu 9:10

Criterion 4 White Rock 2381 King George Highway, 604-531-7456

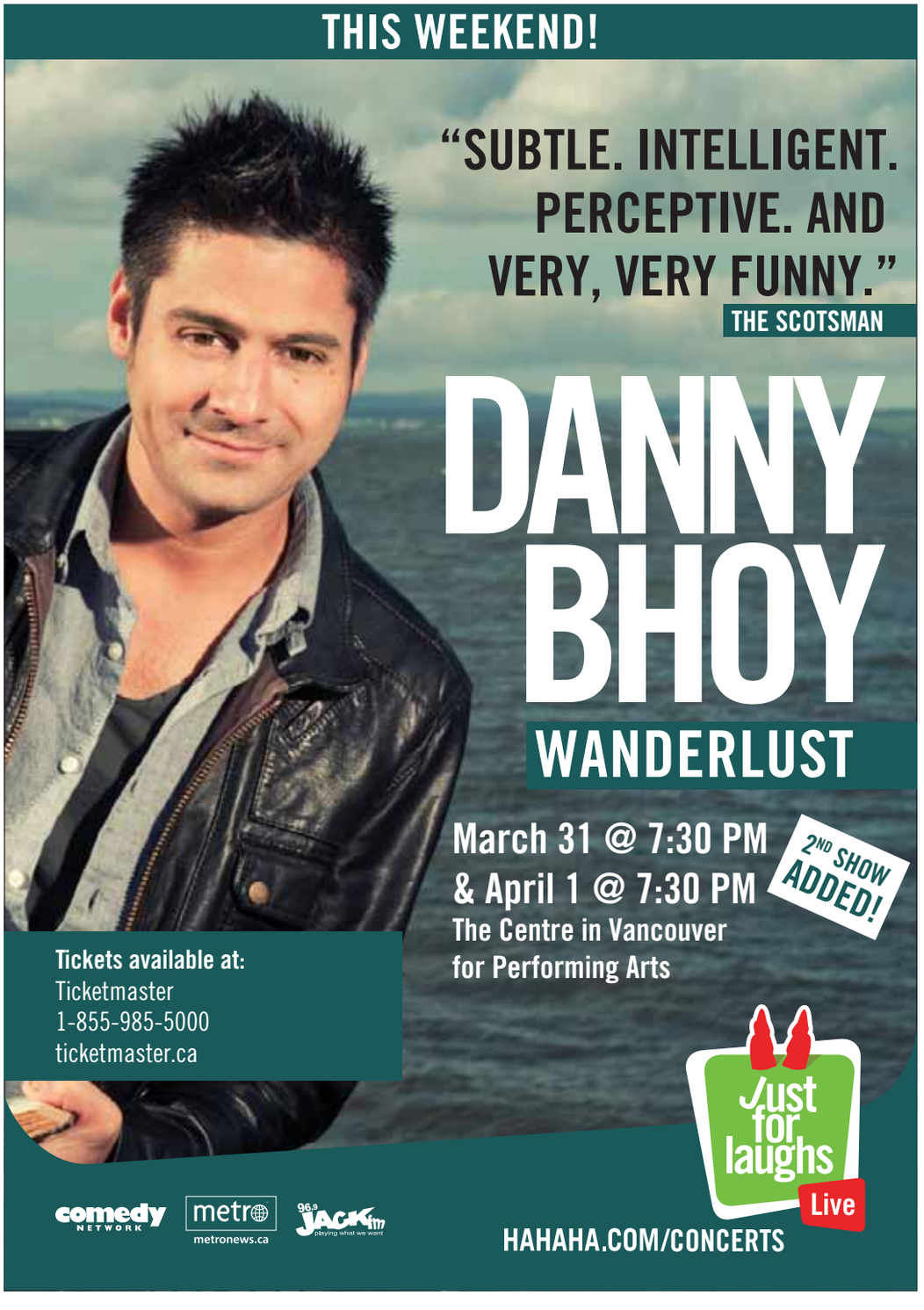
21 Jump Street (14A) Fri 7-9:25 Sat-Sun 2:10-7-9:25 Mon-Thu 7-9:25
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 2:30-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri 6:45-9:35 Sat-Sun 2-6:45-9:35 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:35
John Carter (PG) Fri-Thu 9:20
Wrath of the Titans (14A) Fri 7:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 2:20-7:15-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:30

Colossus Langley 20090-91A Ave, Langley, 604-513-8747

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Sun 12:15-2:50-5:35-7:25-8:15-10-10:55 Mon-Thu 3:55-7:05-7:30-10:05-10:45
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:30-4:40 Mon-Thu 4:30
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:10-3:35-5:50-8:10-10:25 Mon-Thu 3:10-5:25-7:35-9:55
Friends With Kids (14A) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:45-5:25-8-10:35 Mon-Tue 4:20-7:10-10:15 Wed 7:10-10:15 Thu 4:20-7:10-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 3
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sun 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:45 Mon-Thu 3:20-4-7:15 Fri 11:45-12:25-1:30-2-2:55-3:50-4:45-5:15-6:05-6:30-7-7:50-8:30-9:20-9:45-10:15-11:15 Sat 11:40-12:25-1:30-2-2:55-3:50-4:45-5:15-6:05-6:30-7-7:50-8:30-9:20-9:45-10:15-11:15 Sun 11:45-12:25-1:30-2-3:50-5:15-6:05-6:30-7-8:30-9:20-9:45-10:15-11 Mon-Wed 3-3:40-4:25-5-6:10-6:35-6:55-7:35-8:15-9:30-10-10:15-10:30-10:45 Thu 3-3:40-4:25-5-6:10-6:35-7:35-8:15-9:30-10-10:15-10:30-10:45
John Carter 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:30-7:35-10:40 Mon-Thu 3:45-7:25-10:40
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (G) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:10
Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri 12-1:50-2:35-4:25-5:10-7-7:45-9:35-10:30 Sat-Sun 11:15-12-1:50-2:35-4:25-5:10-7-7:45-9:35-10:30 Mon-Tue 4:10-4:40-7-7:25-9:45-10:20 Wed 4:40-7-7:25-9:45-10:20 Thu 4:10-4:40-7-7:25-9:45-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening, Wed 3
The Neverending Story (STC) Sat 11
Rascal Flatts: Changed (STC) Thu 7
Safe House (PG) Fri-Sun 1:55-4:50-7:45-10:40 Mon-Thu 4:50-7:40-10:35
Salmon Fishing in the Yemen (PG) Fri-Sun 11:45-2:20-5-7:40-10:20 Mon-Thu 4:05-7:20-10:25
Wrath of the Titans (14A) Fri-Sun 12:05-2:25-5:30-8-10:20 Mon-Thu 3:50-7:10-10:10 Wrath of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 1-3:30-5:55-8:30-11 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:45-10:40
WWE WrestleMania XXVIII (STC) Sun 4

Twilight Drive-In 260th Street & Fraser Highway, Langley, 604-856-5063

Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (G) Fri-Sat 8 Sun-Wed 9:50 Thu 8
Wrath of the Titans (14A) Fri-Sat 9:50 Sun-Wed 8 Thu 9:50



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OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Lindsay Lohan is back on the streets

MONICA WEYMOUTH
scene@metronews.ca

For the first time in recent history, Lindsay Lohan is not on probation, in jail, or falling out of a car.

At a hearing Thursday afternoon, Judge Stephanie Sautner — who has, historically, not been a fan of Lohan or her courtroom circus — ended the actress' formal probation after agreeing that her community service was successfully completed. In return, Lohan is required to obey all laws — even the annoying ones that we non-famous people abide by — for two-and-a-half years.

Where's Lohan to next?

- Canada, it seems. Her upcoming Elizabeth Taylor movie is shooting in Toronto, and she's been granted a Canadian work permit, reports TMZ.

"I know it's kinda hard when people are following you all over the place, but that's the life you chose," said Sautner. "I'm not going to give a lecture because you know what you need to do. You need to live your life in a more mature way. Stop the nightclubbing and focus on your work."

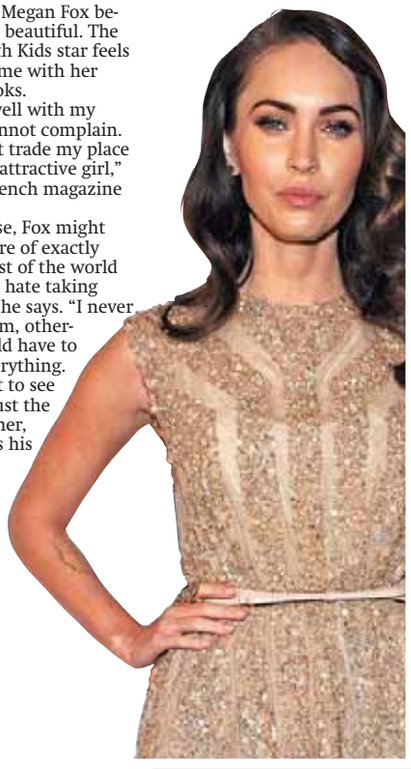
Or focus on a Magic Eye — anything should do at this point, Linds. We're proud of you, and we're cancelling your standing Monday gossip reservation.

Megan likes being a Fox

Don't hate Megan Fox because she's beautiful. The Friends with Kids star feels right at home with her striking looks.

"I live well with my image. I cannot complain. I would not trade my place with an unattractive girl," she tells French magazine Jalouse.

Of course, Fox might not be aware of exactly how the rest of the world sees her: "I hate taking pictures," she says. "I never look at them, otherwise I would have to change everything. I prefer not to see any and trust the photographer, who knows his job."

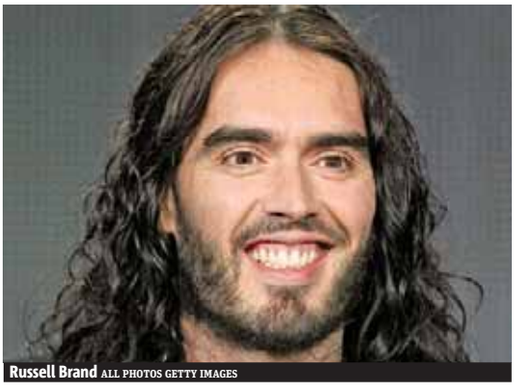


Aiken admits to surgery

No stranger to coming clean about things, Clay Aiken has revealed that he's had some work done to his face.

"I had a surgery on my jaw for a TMJ thing, and I had them suck the fat out of my chin while they were in there," Clay told Bravo's Andy Cohen during an interview.

"I said, 'You know what, while I'm already down, go ahead and take the vacuum in there and suck the fat out of my chin.'"



Russell Brand ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Did Russell Brand go back to his cheating ways while married to Katy Perry?

It's unclear what caused the sudden split between Katy Perry and Russell Brand, but Perry's pals apparently think the British comedian was being unfaithful.

One of her friends, actor Jonathan Schaech, posted on Twitter, "Cheating is easy, try doing something challenging and be faithful," and the post was retweeted by another friend of Perry, jewelry designer Markus Molinari, who added his own comment: "Seeee Russell!"

Whatever the case may be, Perry was pretty convinced last year that Brand would be faithful: "He's made no secret of what his life was like before me, but that's then and this is the future," she told Radar Online.

"He's cheated in the past but he knows how good he has it with me and I know he'd never do anything to jeopardize that. I trust him 100 per cent."

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3 LIFE

Bake-Off

Pumpkin Ravioli wins

Pumpkin Ravioli with Salted Caramel Whipped Cream is the winning dish of the 2012 Pillsbury Bake-Off Contest.

TV host Martha Stewart announced on her show that Christina Verrelli, of Devon, Pa., was the winner. Verelli wins $1 million and $10,000 worth of GE kitchen appliances.

Made with Pillsbury Crescent dough sheets, the recipe can be found on Pillsbury's website, pillsbury.com, along with all the other finalists. All entries in the contest were required to include at least one eligible Pillsbury product.

Three category winners each receive $5,000 cash and $3,000 in appliances. Those dishes are Sausage-Pomodoro Brunch Bake by Maria Vasseur, of Valencia, Calif.; Asparagus, Artichoke and Red Pepper Pizza by Terri Sherman, of Palos Heights, Ill.; and Chicken Empanada Cones and Donna Wolfe, of Hamilton, N.J.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Tax on Cornish pasties, a regional speciality, opens new front in UK's class war

This recipe makes 24 crostini. EMILY RICHARDS

Taste of entertaining gets more appealing

Wilted Spinach and Garlic Crostini. These little bites will impress guests with their contrasting textures of crunch and softness

DINNER EXPRESS
Emily Richards
food@metronews.ca

Deep, earthy green spinach with lots of garlic sits atop a toasted baguette slice for the perfect contrast of crunch and softness in these Wilted Spinach and Garlic Crostini appetizers.

For an added flavour hit, place a shaving of aged Manchego cheese on top of the spinach just before serving.

You can also make the crostini ahead of time and keep on hand for a quick appetizer accompaniment for those times when unexpected guests drop by.

1. Brush the baguette slices with some of the extra virgin olive oil and place them on large baking sheet. Toast the baguette slices in a 425 F (220 C) oven for about 8 minutes or until they are golden brown. Sprinkle with salt and let cool.

2. Cook the spinach, one bag at a time, in large nonstick skillet over medium high heat, stirring often, for about 5 minutes or until wilted. Place in colander and drain well. Repeat this step with the remaining bag. Set aside.

3. Heat the remaining olive oil in skillet over medium heat. Cook the garlic, anchovies and hot pepper flakes for about 2 minutes, or until turning they are golden.

4. Add the spinach and toss it to coat with olive oil and garlic sauce. Cook everything for about 2 minutes or until it is all well coated and warmed. Remove the mixture from heat and season to taste with salt.

5. Divide the mixture among the toasted baguette slices and serve.

EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE ON EMILY AND HER RECIPES, PLEASE VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA.

Ingredients

- Half French baguette, sliced
- 1/3 cup (75 mL) extra virgin olive oil
- Sea salt
- 6 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 anchovies, minced
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) hot pepper flakes
- 2 bags (10 oz/300 g each) baby spinach, rinsed

Liquid Assets

A magical combo that sparkles

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
peterrockwell@eastlink.ca

Don't hate me because I'm beautiful, hate me because at this moment I'm sitting at an outdoor resto in Verona Italy, enjoying a Spritz.

It's a magical combination of the Italian aperitif Aperol ($21.99 - $25.98) with an equal part of Prosecco, a dash of sparkling water and a garnishing slice of orange.

Prosecco aficionados may cringe, but the refreshing flavour mix screams spring and is an amazing appetite enhancer, which explains why everyone in the Vento region loves a glass before dinner.

Originating in Veneto, prosecco is a lightly sparkling white wine with a characteristically dry personality that is effervescent without going full blown bubbly. Made with the glera grape variety, it's produced using the Charmat method — which means its sparkle comes from a second fermentation in a steel tank rather than inside the bottle like its competitors from Champagne.

While selection varies across the country, this is one wine style with which it's hard to find a bad example. Piera Martellozzo's Blu Giovello Prosecco ($14.95 - $16.99) is a bone dry version with subtle tropical fruit flavours that make it ideal for hard to match menus like sushi and Thai.

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

Dip Duo. Dunk your appetizers

Ontario Greenhouse Tomato Dip with Canadian Bacon

1. In a mixing bowl, combine sour cream, mayonnaise, cream cheese, cheddar cheese, onion, garlic, green pepper and black pepper.

2. Add crumbled bacon and chopped tomatoes. Mix evenly.

Oven Dried Tomato Dip

1. Preheat oven to 350 F/180 C.

2. Slice Ontario greenhouse tomatoes thinly and place on a perforated oven sheet to dry for 30 - 45 minutes.

3. In a blender, combine the cream cheese, tomatoes, garlic and olive oil. Process until ingredients are mixed, not creamy.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ingredients

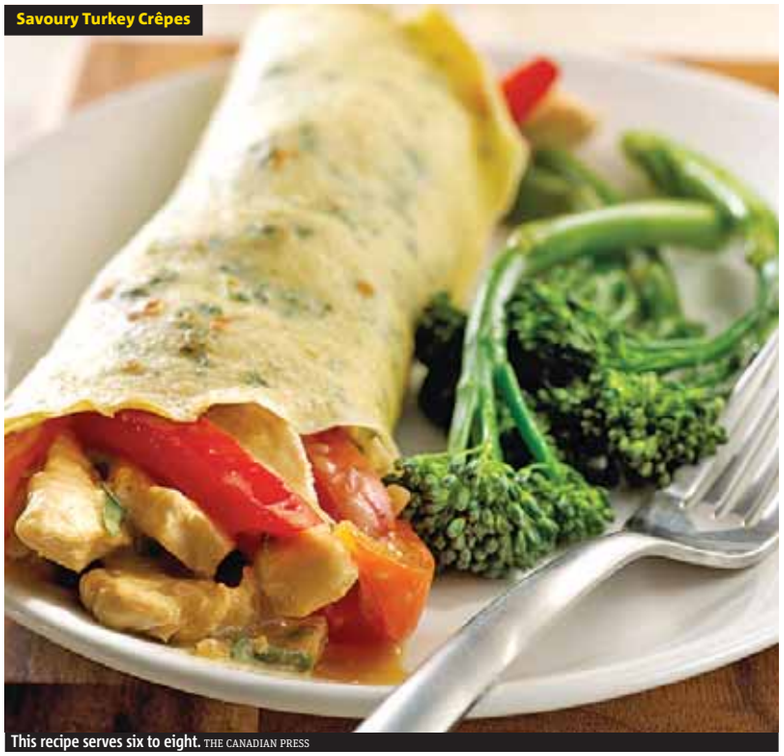
Tomato Dip with Bacon
- 1 cup (250 ml) sour cream
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) mayonnaise
- 4 oz (112 g) cream cheese
- 1/2 cup (125 g) cheddar cheese
- 1/4 cup (63 g) chopped green onion
- 1/4 cup (63 g) diced green pepper
- 1 large Ontario greenhouse tomato, seeded and diced
- 1 pound Canadian bacon (454 g), cooked crisp, drained and crumbled
- 1/2 tsp (6 g) garlic, minced
- Black pepper to taste

Oven Dried Tomato Dip
- 1 pound (454 g) Ontario greenhouse tomatoes dried in the oven
- 8 oz (224 g) cream cheese, softened
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) olive oil
- 2 to 3 garlic cloves, minced

Both dips serve six to eight people. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

Savoury turkey crêpes ideal for light lunch, entertaining

Savoury Turkey Crêpes



This recipe serves six to eight. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ingredients

Crêpe Batter
- 500 ml (2 cups) flour
- 8 eggs
- 250 ml (1 cup) milk
- 250 ml (1 cup) chicken or vegetable stock
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) vegetable oil
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) melted butter
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) chopped parsley
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) Parmesan cheese, plus extra for serving
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- Cooking oil

Turkey Filling
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) olive oil
- 1 small onion, diced
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) oregano
- 750 g (1 1/2 lb) turkey breast, cut into strips
- 250 ml (1 cup) button mushrooms
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) chopped fresh sage
- 250 ml (1 cup) thinly sliced red peppers
- 250 ml (1 cup) thinly sliced orange peppers
- 2 cans (each 284 ml/10 oz) cream of mushroom soup
- 500 ml (2 cups) chicken or vegetable broth
- Salt and pepper, to taste

1. In a large bowl, make a well in the centre of the flour. In a second bowl, whisk together eggs, milk, stock, oil and melted butter. Pour liquid ingredients into flour and blend well using a wire whisk. If batter is lumpy, pass through a sieve. Add parsley and cheese to smooth batter, cover and refrigerate for 15 minutes.

2. Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add onion and oregano and sauté until softened. Add turkey and cook until starting to brown. Add mushrooms, sage and peppers and sauté for 5 minutes. Add mushroom soup and broth and bring to a boil. Set heat to low and keep mixture warm.

3. Heat oiled crêpe pan or frying pan over medium-low heat. Spread one ladle of batter on pan, swirling pan until batter is close to the sides. Cook until batter is set and the edges start to curl. Flip for a moment and then remove.

4. Divide turkey mixture among 16 crepes. Place filling on one edge of the crepe and roll. Serve sprinkled with grated Parmesan cheese.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Sports empire

Flames assume majority stake in Stampeders

The Calgary Flames' sports empire continues to grow.

The NHL team announced Thursday it has increased its stake in the CFL's Stampeders from five per cent to a majority position.

The Flames already have a controlling interest in the Calgary Roughnecks of the National Lacrosse League and own both the Calgary Hitmen of the Western Hockey League and Abbotsford Heat, their American Hockey League farm team.

"I don't think (we're) too big," Flames president Ken King responded to questions about a perceived monopoly.

"Now, in fact, with the addition of this team it's the right size."

The Flames have a six-member ownership group led by chairman Murray Edwards, a billionaire oilman who owns Canadian Natural Resources.

The CFL transaction, subject to league approval, is expected to be finalized in the next few weeks.

King also announced a new five-year contract for John Hufnagel, the Stamps head coach and general manager, perhaps as a way of illustrating that things will not be changing at McMahon Stadium on the football front.

Hufnagel had two years remaining on his current contract but the new deal will kick in this season.

The Stampeders were sold in 2005 by California businessman Michael Feterik to a 12-member group that included former Stampeders players John Forzani, Dave Sapunjis and Bob Viccars, businessman Ted Hellard, and former CFL commissioner Doug Mitchell. Some members of the group have remained anonymous. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Habs axe GM Gauthier after dismal season

New direction. Team adviser and franchise icon Bob Gainey also leaving his post

Montreal Canadiens owner Geoff Molson speaks to reporters Thursday after announcing general manager Pierre Gauthier had been relieved of his duties. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The struggling Montreal Canadiens have fired general manager Pierre Gauthier and parted ways with franchise icon Bob Gainey, saying the direction of the storied franchise had to change.

The NHL team announced the Gauthier firing first in a terse statement, ahead of a news conference with owner Geoff Molson.

Bob Gainey, whom Gauthier succeeded as GM, is also leaving his role as a team adviser, Molson told the news conference. Gainey and Gauthier are longtime friends.

Serge Savard, another Habs icon, will serve as an adviser to Molson in the search for a new GM.

Molson praised the Canadiens' fans and spoke about restoring the team to its former glory, pointing to a stockpile of draft picks and promises of acquiring new talent.

"We need to remember that our fans want us to win, period," Molson said. "Our organizational culture is to support and adopt this passion for victory. Nothing else matters."

Gauthier paid the price for a 29-34-14 season that has the Habs languishing in the Eastern Conference basement.

"Everyone in this organization, including our players, expected better," Molson said.

The Canadiens' standard is to reach the top, not just make the playoffs, he said.

A string of moves this season did not revive the battered Canadiens.

Gauthier fired assistant coach Perry Pearn and then head coach Jacques Martin in mid-December, only to find himself in even hotter water for appointing the unilingual Randy Cunneyworth as interim coach. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ice dancing. Moir, Virtue golden once again

Canadians Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir are back on top of the ice-dancing world.

The Olympic champions reclaimed their world title on Thursday in Nice, France, edging American rivals and defending champions Meryl Davis and Charlie White.

Skating their free dance to Gershwin's Funny Face, Virtue and Moir finished the free dance with 182.65. The duo won the world crown in 2010 but finished second last year. Virtue, from London, Ont., and Moir, from Ilderton, Ont., led after Wednesday's short program. THE CANADIAN PRESS

CFL

Bombers bring back Johnson

Cornerback Jovon Johnson was signed to a contract extension by the Winnipeg Blue Bombers on Thursday.

Johnson, entering his fifth season with the Bombers, was picked as the CFL's top defensive player in 2011, the first time a defensive back has been selected.

He was a CFL all-star for the second straight season in 2011 and sits fourth on Winnipeg's all-time list with 594 yards as a punt returner. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Athletics get even with Mariners

Ichiro Suzuki came up empty in the finale of a two-game trip to Tokyo, and so did the Seattle Mariners.

The Japanese star went 0-for-4 for the Mariners in a 4-1 loss to the Oakland Athletics on Thursday night that left them with a season-opening split.

Bartolo Colon (1-0) and Grant Balfour combined on a three-hitter, with Seattle getting its only run on Justin Smoak's seventh-inning homer. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 SPORTS

Canucks preview

Dallas at Vancouver Friday, 7 p.m. (TSN)

The Canucks (47-21-9) host Dallas (42-30-5), which held on to the Pacific Division lead with a 3-1 win over Edmonton on Wednesday. Michael Ryder had three points in the win, including two goals to raise his season total to 35. Loui Eriksson added two assists to reach 70 points for the third straight season. Mike Ribeiro has eight points in his last five games. Jamie Benn has four goals in his last three games and 26 on the season. THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the web

Glenn Howard says his rink is "still riding a high" after winning the Brier on March 12. He'll try to carry that positive energy to the international stage representing Canada as the world curling championships get underway this weekend in Switzerland. Scan the code for the story.

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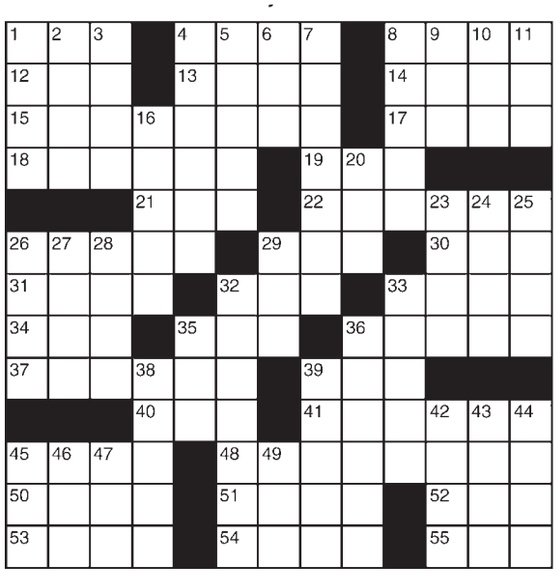
Crossword



Across

1 Suitable
4 Egg part
8 Eccentric
12 Appomattox VIP
13 "Super-food" fruit
14 Met melody
15 Stuff drifting in the ocean
17 Depend (on)
18 Hit
19 Jewel
21 Trawler need
22 Quantum theorist Max
26 Lay out
29 Muppet master Henson
30 Before
31 Vague
32 Swindle
33 Ontario tribe
34 "— Town"
35 Salary
36 Go in search of prey
37 Pluto, once
39 That girl
40 High times
41 Get snug
45 Addict
48 Banana's cousin
50 Bucks' mates
51 Re planes
52 Rest-room, for short
53 Micro-wave, jocularly
54 Is going to
55 Weeps

Down

1 Heidi's range
2 Hide
3 Rend
4 Talked on and on
5 Four pairs
6 "7 Faces of Dr. —"
7 Leader
8 Fate
9 Raw rock
10 Lubricate
11 Band-leader Kyser
16 Fool
20 Shade source
23 Infamous lyrist
24 Team of workers
25 Nautical stabilizer
26 Buy stuff
27 Cohort of Ringo
28 Pound of poetry
29 Bliss
32 Dupe
33 Top of a wave
35 Energy
36 Carbolic acid
38 Hospital employee
39 Tangle
42 Body powder
43 Taleteller
44 Jealousy
45 Grecian vessel
46 Old French coin
47 "A mouse!"
49 Mainlander's memento

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Yesterday's answer

G	A	L	A	■	V	I	C	E	■	D	U	D
O	B	I	S	■	A	C	A	I	■	E	N	E
D	E	M	I	T	T	I	N	G	■	M	I	L
S	T	A	T	U	S	■	■	H	A	I	T	I
■	■	■	I	X	■	M	O	T	E	L	■	■
B	E	D	S	■	G	A	P	■	C	L	U	B
I	R	E	■	■	A	Y	E	■	■	E	G	O
G	A	M	E	■	N	B	C	■	A	S	H	Y
■	■	I	M	A	G	E	■	A	L	■	■	■
C	A	J	U	N	■	■	S	I	M	I	A	N
O	N	O	■	D	E	M	I	M	O	O	R	E
N	T	H	■	E	V	A	N	■	S	T	A	T
K	I	N	■	S	E	E	K	■	T	A	M	S

Sudoku

9				6				7
3		8		5		1		4
		6	3		4	8		
1								3
			5		8			
5								2
		1	9		3	7		
6		3		1		4		8
2				8				9

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer

1	2	5	7	9	4	6	8	3
4	6	3	8	5	2	9	7	1
7	9	8	6	1	3	4	2	5
6	7	4	9	2	5	1	3	8
3	1	2	4	8	7	5	9	6
5	8	9	1	3	6	7	4	2
9	3	6	5	4	8	2	1	7
2	4	7	3	6	1	8	5	9
8	5	1	2	7	9	3	6	4

Send a kiss

- **My Secret Crush.** You dont have to apologize for being busy at work. God knows it's not about Lattes.. From Just a Guy
- **S bd.** I miss you in my way and I always know and appreciate you love that shakes my heart. It's precious forever... What ever I do what you do all are the privilege from God's gift. From mm
- **Dear Pasta.** I love you in red sauce and I love you in white sauce. Alfredo, and a la Vodka. You make my day when it's dinner time. That's a spicy meat a ball!! From Not a Manja Cake
- **JG.** Its sad that i can't tell how much i like you ? (56) When i see you my Heart beats When people talk about you my Heart beats When i hear your name my Heart beats (Why me?) what kind of feeling is this? Look now my Heart is beating because i am thinking about you. ? I like everything about you And hope you will read the newspaper God give me power to tell him how much i like him. From Your secret crush
- **MX.** I want us to work dont break my heart again I love now & forever. NN

Today 10°/3° Showers 80%
Saturday 8°/6° Rain 60%
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Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. You need to make changes and spend less time worrying what other people think of you. Most think highly of you anyway.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. You will come out of your shell today and make a good impression on everyone you meet.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. This is an excellent time for new alliances and new beginnings. Change is good for you. The world will smile on you so be yourself.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. If something you are working on seems to be taking up all of your time, that's a sign you should be working on other things.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. A lot of things are happening over which you have no control. Don't worry. You won't sink without trace.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. Someone may think they've forced you into a corner but they're mad if they think you will change.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. You will find it easier to get along with people you work with on a daily basis, and that's good because you are going to need allies over the next few weeks.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. Go all out over the next few days to start something new, something creative, something that you will be remembered for.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. Your main need now is to find a space you can call your own. You deserve some peace and quiet for a change.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. If you have not planned anything for the next couple of days then get planning now. Travel and social plans are well starred now.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. You'll have to make some tough decisions early next week concerning what you own, what you earn.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. Make it a priority to have as much fun as possible over the next 24 hours. Get the most out of life.

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption Contest

"Move it! The colonel is coming."
Joel

DAVID BITTON, APPEAL-DEMOCRAT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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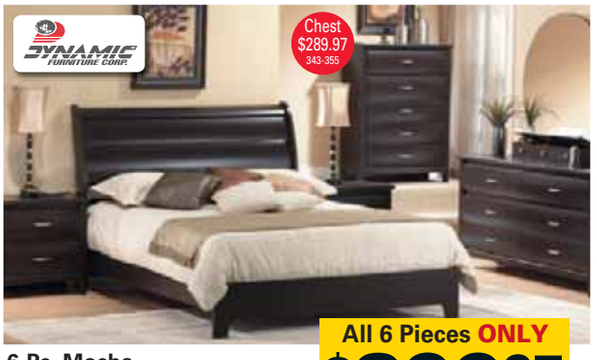

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